



EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 - 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

Web Page: www.ebenezerbpc.org

Date 14 February 2010

City Gospel F' ship 15 Drummond St, Carlton, VIC 3053.
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ACN No: A0038695
 "Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."
 1 Samuel 7:12
 Supervisory & Senior Pastor
 Dr S H Tow

			LAST WEEK'S Collection (07/01/10)		
			EBENEZER		CGF
TUE (16/02/10)	7.00 pm	CGF Dinner	Attendance	148	28
FRI (19/02/10)	7.45 pm	Chinese New Year Gathering	Offerings	\$1,982.90	\$373.55
	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting/BS - Dn Philip Soon	Bldg Fund	\$1,435	
		YF - Changed Into His Image - Lesson 10	Mission	\$600	
SAT (20/02/10)	6.00 pm	No Facilitators' Meeting	Church Pew	\$10	
	7.45 pm	CGF Prayer Meeting	Gift - Monash		\$210
SUN (21/02/10)	9.30 am	Choir Practice	Received To Date		
	9.45 am	Pre Worship Prayer Meeting	Internal Gift	315,042	
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Praise	Internal Loan	127,000	
	10.30 am	Worship Service - What Is Man? Job 7:17 - Rev. Patrick Tan	External Gift	422,894	
			Art & Craft	846	
	11.45 am	Sunday School	Book Sales	2,244	
	12.15 pm	Biscuit Fellowship	Mission Fund YTD	2,410	
	12.30 pm	SBC/BBK	Pew	6,110	
	2.30 pm	Strabane: Mohan Raw	Building Fund giving since 01/07/09 :	\$5,735	
	4.00 pm	CGF Worship - Better Marry Than Burn - Pr. Lim Hai Seng	Next Loan (Internal)		
		CGF Singing Group/BBK - Recess	Repayment	\$127,000	31 Dec 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Welcome to CNY Lunch:** All worshippers & friends invited.
- BBK:** Today by Eld Meyale, **SBC** resumes next week by Dr P Tan.
- Sunday Bible Class:** Study on Comparative World Religions & Cults. All are welcome and to update our knowledge. Next week: Islam
- PRAYER FOCUS:** a) **HEALTH & HEALING:** Olivia Ong, Koh Choon Fong, Michael Yap, Odilia, Tina. b) **MISSIONS:** Cambodia Life University: Rev David Koo (Sihanokville); Moses Han BPC & Rev Stephen Choi Glory BPC: (Phnom Penh), First BPC: Chanthon & Siang Lai (Siem Reap). Barnabas & Lekema (Poipet); **Kenya-Molot** June Korir; **Laos** Surish, **Yangon** Rev Andrew Kam, - **Batam** Ev Roska Sihombing & Pr Efendi Ginting. **Chiangmai** Rev Nirand & Jess. **Chan Pui Meng** returns to Spore.
- CGF: UNI ORIENTATION & TRACTING** - Willing hands and hearts required for this upcoming event. Week starting 22 Feb 2010. Those interested please see William Ong.
- CGF BIBLE STUDY** - Every Tuesday at 7pm for dinner and Bible Study at 7.45. You are invited to come and be blessed by the teaching, sharing and fellowship. **Welcome Day 2010:** on Tue Feb 23 at 7 pm.
- EASTER FAMILY CAMP 2010:** Apr 2-5 at Tandara Lutheran Camp in Halls Gap Grampians. Families plan early to have spiritual holiday together. Sp. Rev Tan Eng Boo. Theme: Be Still and Know - Be Active and Grow. Ps 46:10. Register now with William Ong.
- NEW YEAR GREETINGS** - Blessed Chinese New Year to all our Chinese brethren. Please do join us for lunch fellowship. Thank you to all for your contributions of food and labor of love.
- FRIDAY PRAYER MEETING** - Come and join us in a time of sharing and prayer. On Friday at 8.00pm at Mulgrave Gospel Hall, Garnett Drive, Wheelers Hill. We do encourage all to come to encourage one another in the Lord..
- THEME FOR 2010:** "Where there is no VISION the people perish". Prov 29:18. The first quarter messages for Ebenezer: "Triumph in the Trials of Job"; For CGF: "Unity in the Church and Among Christians" from 1 Epistle Corinthians.

Memory Verse: John 4:35 "Say ye not, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest."

Pastoral Meditation

IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12.

The Bible is God's Word. There is internal evidence of divine authorship and it is claimed by the church. The Christians read the Bible as it comes from God's very mouth. We meditate on it and we preach it.

Being God's Word, the Bible is a living testimony of the divine Author and has the power and authority of the God of Creation. It is a spiritual book that addresses to the heart of the readers. It exposes sinful man to the thoughts of a holy God. The Bible speaks to man in conviction, discerning his thoughts and desires of his heart.

BIBLE'S 3 FOLD RELIABILITY

PENNERED BY RELIABLE WRITERS. "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Pet 1:21. God chose reliable writers who were men of good repute. Writers were prophets and apostles. God spoke directly to them and they wrote by inspiration. Thus God wrote His Word using human agency. The Bible has 40 or more authors and written over 2000 years, yet the writers do not contradict each other. The Bible is one Book and one divine Author.

HISTORICAL & SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY. The narratives in the Bible contain people and places. The events are collaborated by secular historians. The obscure ones are proven by archaeology which are constantly being update. Though not a scientific text book the Bible is scientifically true and accurate. The God who wrote the Bible is the God of creation. He created the stars and the molecules.

PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE. The Bible reveals the omnipotent God. Man will never know God unless He reveals Himself. The Bible declares spiritual truth about sinful man and his lost estate. It proclaims God's plan of redeeming man from his sinfulness to a right relationship with Himself through Jesus whom He sent to die on our behalf on the cross of Calvary. Christianity is God seeking for men. Jesus says, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Lk 19:10.

This is the purpose for which the Bible was written. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Jn 20:31.

Dr Patrick Tan

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	10.30 am (Ebenezer)	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
Pre Worship Praise	Stephen Lim/Yvonne Yeap (p)	William Ong
Prelude	Judith Lim(p) Yvonne Yeap (o)	Yvonne Yeap
Flowers	Sue Edward	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
Call to Worship	Pr. Lim Hai Seng	Pr. Lim Hai Seng
Opening Hymn	5 - <i>Command Thy Blessing From Above</i>	47 - <i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>
Invocation	Pr. Lim Hai Seng	Pr. Lim Hai Seng
<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>		
Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm :22	Ephesians 5: 20-33
Hymn	127 - <i>Dwelling In Beulah Land</i>	MH 475 - <i>Rejoice In The Lord</i>
Tithes / Offering	403 - <i>Count Your Blessings</i> Peter Yong/Paul Yeo/Chia K. L/Robert Chua	403 - <i>Count Your Blessings</i> William Ong
<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>		
Doxology		
Scripture Reading	Job: 6 Mark Yeo	1 Corinthians 6: 9-20 William Ong
Preparatory Hymn	311 - <i>Does Jesus Cares</i>	4 - <i>Love Divine All Love Excelling</i>
Family Prayer	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
	"The Strength Of Stones" Rev. Patrick Tan	" Temple Of The Holy Ghost " Dr. Stephen Lim
Closing Hymn	MH 475 - <i>Rejoice In The Lord</i>	243 - <i>The Comforter Has Come</i>
Benediction	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
<i>The Lord Bless You & Keep You</i>		
**Next Week's Roster	21/02/2010 Ebenezer @ 10.30am	City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm
Speaker	Rev. Patrick Tan	Pr. Lim Hai Seng
Pre Worship Praise	William Ong/Trish Yeo(p)	Susanna Ting
Worship Leader	Dr. Stephen Lim	William Ong
Scripture Reader	William Ong	Stuart Turner
Musicians	Trish Yeo(p) Hannah Chia (o)	Jia Hui Teo
Ushers	Wan Kwang Koe/Greg Miller/Chris Rudalski/J. Campbell	Stuart Turner
Flowers	Belle Raw	
Fellowship Tea	Biscuit Fellowship)	Wai Ye Kan/Yvonne Yeap

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His Holy Temple (x2)

Let all the earth keep silence

Let all the earth keep silence before Him

Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you ,

The Lord lift His countenance upon you

And give you peace and give you peace.

The Lord make His face to shine upon You

And be gracious unto you, be gracious;

The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

My dear readers,

1. **“Walking with God ...”**

Our Calvary Pandan theme for the year 2010 is, *“Walking with God in perilous times”* based on the apostle Paul's exhortation in his letter to Timothy (2 Tim 3:1). The theme speaks to two groups of people: a) To believers such as we are, and b) to unbelievers and the people of the world at large. To this second group we have the message of repentance and salvation, which we must sound forth clearly and constantly, from the pulpit, in our daily conversation, in our personal communications and by our conduct, as the apostle said, *“... I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some”* (1 Cor 9:22).

Let us by all means strive for the salvation of the lost, including those in our own families and circle of friends. This must be part and parcel of our *“walking with God”* – witnessing by our lives.

2. **“The time is at hand”**

My particular concern is addressed to our own members, Calvarians in Pandan, those who worship and serve the Lord with us: my overwhelming burden is for these. For I am burdened with the same concern of the apostle Paul who expressed it in these words: *“But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway”* (1 Cor 9:27). This is a stern and solemn warning: salvation may be free, but it is a strait and narrow road.

So my question is: *“Dear reader, how is your daily **walk with God**? Are you truly walking the narrow road with Him, or are you going along the world's broadway?”*

Our Lord Himself sounds out an urgent warning: *“And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last”* (Rev 22:12-13). How is your work? Will the Lord be pleased?

Thank God for speaking from heaven, through John the apostle to us, the urgent and glorious message, *“Behold I come!”* To any reader who is not really prepared for that day, I draw your attention to Revelation 1:3: *“Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”*

It is with urgency, and unspeakable joy that I write about our blessed Lord's return! Why *“joy”*? Simply because His coming is so near – *“for the time is at hand”* and He is our life, our joy, our all.

All signs (and they are plentiful) sound the warning, **the Lord's return is at hand**. As the Lord Himself says, *“So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors”* (Matt 24:33). Read again and ponder with prayer.

3. **Responding to the Call of God**

I have written words of loving concern. May all readers respond **with positive action!** I quote here from Rene Pache (*“The Return of Jesus Christ”*). He writes from the perspective of our Lord's imminent appearing.

Quote: “Everything in the daily life of the Christian ought to be influenced by such a perspective. A great number of passages show us the direct connection that there is between our blessed hope and the most diverse areas of our life. Let us simply emphasize some of the great words which take up for us these appeals.”

a. *Watchfulness and preparedness*

Rene Pache continues: “The Master is coming again. It is an important matter that He should not find us sleeping. *“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. [What would Paul say today!] 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”* (Rom 13:11-12).

“But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief ... Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober” (1 Thess 5:4, 6; cf Matt 24:42, 44; and Luke 12:35-38).

b. *Sanctification and victory*

“Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God ... Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless” (2 Peter 3:11-12, 14).

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ ... Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God” (Phil 1:6, 9-11).

Walk *“worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory ... And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men ... To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints ... And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it”* (1 Thess 2:12; 3:12, 13; 5:23, 24; cf 1 Cor 1:7, 8; 1 Tim 6:13, 14; Titus 2:11-13; Rev 3:11, 12, 21).

All of these passages show how much sanctification ought to be the constant preoccupation of the one who waits for the coming of Jesus Christ. *“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”* (Heb 12:14). Let us therefore do our utmost to succeed in it according as it is written, *“Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed ... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”* (Phil 2:12) as if everything should depend on us. (End of quote from Rene Pache).

God bless all readers as we wait and watch for the Lord's return. Amen.

Faithfully in the Lord,

Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor