

Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022
Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm
Website: www.sovereignhopebpc.org
Rev Dr Jack Sin: 91160948 (hp) / jacksin710@gmail.com
Elder Loke Tat Luen: lloke822@gmail.com

“Divine Counsel for End-Time Living” (Luke 12:15-34)

*- Summary of the devotion by Pastor
at the prayer meeting on 20 Dec 2023 -*

Pastor Jack welcomed all the attendees: Dn Yue Kay, members & regular friends and 3 overseas brethren, namely, Elder Habakkuk, Preacher Myitta and sister Hla Pui. We opened the Prayer Meeting with the hymn, “*What Child is This*”. This song encapsulates the awe and wonder surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. Thereafter, Pastor Jack led us in opening prayer. Next, we took turns to read God’s Word from Luke 12:15–34 before Pastor Jack expounded on it.

A) Covetousness – A Grave Warning (v15-22)

The Lord has taught many concepts concerning everlasting life, salvation, hope and even the necessity to put God first in our lives.

What is our aim in life? To a non-Christian, generally, it is to be happy in life and to have more resources like money, to achieve it. So, the general mindset of a human being is to work our hearts out to make more money.

But there is a warning in verse 15. We are told to be careful of something which will affect every one of us. **It is a problem or the peril of covetousness. It is about craving for more things that we want to have or possess.** If a person says he/she is not affected by it, then either he/she does not know what he/she is talking about or is not telling the truth. (1Tim 6:6-10)

Take a look around in our houses. There are so many things that we have acquired over the years. Honestly, it is strange that we spend our lives working so hard to build our resources that by the time we die or when we grow old, we cannot really enjoy them because our health is failing us.



Then, what happens? We leave them to the next generation. Basically, it is a strange phenomenon as someone else is benefitting from all your hard work instead. This does not mean that we do not work or earn a living to feed ourselves and our families.

It is a warning against the danger of someone who tends to keep accumulating or hoarding things or building a temporal empire; just living on perceived things that one does not actually have. Ironically, many of us think that we are rich but be careful, for a man's life does not consist of his possessions according to our Lord. So, do not measure someone by what he/she has or own. This is what most of us will do in this age and time and that is wrong and we need to admonish others on this .

In the church context, some preachers or church leaders may even be afraid to speak the truth for fearing of offending the people. A servant of God must preach the Word of God faithfully as the Truth, without fear and favour of man.

Verses 16-19 is a parable by the Lord, a discouraging one as it was about a certain rich man who built greater barns to keep his fruits and goods. But In verse 20, God said unto him, *"Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"* This is a serious situation for us to ponder and act upon before it is too late.

Have we misplaced your priorities where God is concerned in our lives? Are we ready to meet God if He calls us? We are to be rich in heaven and be careful not to neglect God (verse 21). Covetousness can destroy the souls of people!

B) Consider God Created Nature (v23-30)

"Consider" (in verses 24 & 27) means "to think of / bring your mind to something".

Nature? What is so special about nature?

A Scottish psychologist once prescribed for his patient who was suffering from depression, to walk 3 times a week in the woods as part of his treatment.

What do you do when you are in the woods? What would you see there in the woods? Consider the ravens, the fowls of the air, the lilies... all are God's wonderful creation! They are all clothed and well provided by God, the Creator. What about you? Does God not care for you who is made in His image?

Yes. It is a natural tendency for us to worry for there are many uncertainties. But we can trust in the Lord and also witness God's care given to His creation. **So, spend some time to the thinking of the natural beauty and the supernatural sustenance that God gives to His creation, and we are the apex of His creation. Look at what God has done in nature and how much more He had done for us at the cross for all who believed in Him and be comforted and encouraged.**



C) Consecrate your heart and treasure to God in Heaven (v31-34)

There are certain things we are not to be zealously obsessed in seeking, like, what to eat, drink or wear. Do not be of a doubtful mind. This refers to someone who is unstable and is often wavering, just like the waves which have a certain effect on the ship. Hence, an anchor is needed to steady the ship.

The tendency for us to drift spiritually and even to ignore or doubt God in life is very real. We do not have absolute knowledge; many are often unsure and uncertain of things. Thus, mental health issues like depression, anxiety and fear/phobia have affected many others.

As a Christian, we are also not spared from all dangers, suffering, sickness and trials . . . but God has not been given us the spirit of fear and we are not without divine assistance. We can place our trust in God at all times. **Once you have the right theology, it will show in our actions, thoughts and even our lifestyle. We will bring all matters unto God in prayer, trusting Him to deliver us according to His perfect timing and will.**

Matthew 6:33 reads, “*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you.*” What are all these things? They are the food, drinks and clothing that you need.

The problem with many of us is having the right priority in life and that often we seek the cares of the world and the temporal things of the world and not the eternal things of God! In the end, our lives are so messed up. **A person whose mind is not fixed on Christ and His kingdom will not have a stable mind. He/she will not have the assurance of faith and confidence in or the peace of God if his/her mind is always obsessed with just making money.(and there is a proper place for us to have a decent job to support our family)**

It is a matter of what is important to you, and you should pray and consider carefully and get it right .



Conclusion

As we have begun the new year, let us consider where your treasure is, for there will your heart be also. Are our treasures on earth or in heaven? What in the world are we doing for heaven’s sake? We need to wake up spiritually! Let us get out of spiritual bondage and be set free to worship, seek and serve God in 2024. Let us humbly seek God while He still can be found before it is too late! Amen.

Han Kin Kheng

THE MAJESTY & SUPREMACY OF THE SON OF GOD

Lord's Day Programme for January to March 2024

JANUARY

- 7 **Christ**, the Name above All Names (Heb 1:1-14)
- 14* The Warning & Work of **Christ** (Heb 2:9-18)
- 21 Admonitions from the Wilderness (Heb 3:1-14)
- 28 Precious Promises & the Power of God (Heb 4:1-16)

FEBRUARY

- 4 **6th Thanksgiving Anniversary**
Equipping a Worshipping Working & Witnessing Transformed Church Community (Rom 12:1-13)
- 11* **Christ**, the Perfect Great High Priest (Heb 5:1-14)
- 18 Appeal to Spiritual Maturity (Heb 6:1-12)
- 25 Understanding Christ & the Sanctuary of God (Heb 9:11-28)

MARCH

- 3 The Lamb of God & Challenges to the People of God (Heb 10:11-25)
- 10* Examples of Faith Tested & Tried (Heb 11:1-16)
- 17 Counsel for the Christian Race (Heb 12:1-17)
- 24 Sacred Duties of Every Believer (Heb 13:1-17)
- 29* **Good Friday**
The Vicarious Atonement Explained (Rom 5:6-19)
- 31 **Resurrection Sunday Service**
The Implications of the Empty Tomb (1 Cor 15:1-23)

Reaching Out & Supporting our Brethren



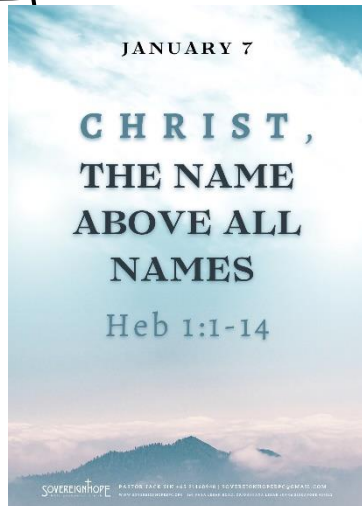
Extending our condolences and comfort to John Wong at the vigil service of his mother Mdm Chin Kan Tee who was received into God's presence on 8 Jan 2023.

Pray for the full recovery of Janet from the operations on her left hand and bone injury around her left knee.



Hi Pastor Jack,
Thank you for your today's video, I always wanted to have a greater understanding of the book of Hebrews and thank God and I am so happy that you will be preaching on this book for the next few Sundays. I have already learned a few things in this first video. Looking to receive more videos. Thanks again.

Dn John Tann
Ebenezer BPC. Melbourne
7 Jan 2024



Testimony of My Salvation *- Caroline Tucker -*

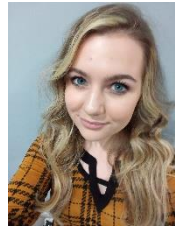
The Holy Spirit began to move in my heart at a very young age. I was only about four or five when I asked for forgiveness for my sins. The Lord has kept me all these years and has never suffered my foot to be moved. When I think of the blessings of the Lord, my mind is turned to His perfect providence throughout my life. Every step of the way, the Lord has shown me that He is in control of all that happens, and I cannot begin to describe the comfort that goes along with such assurance. I know that my future is not my own to determine, yet I am not afraid. I know that my life is in the hands of God, and no man on earth or devil in hell can change that. He is my Savior, my strength, and my life.

He has given me the peace of believing when I had no peace on this earth. He has shown me that He is faithful, in spite of my own failings. I will never cease to fail while I am on this earth, but God is faithful, and He has promised that He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it to the day of Jesus Christ. I take refuge in those words against a thousand evil doubts and pains of guilt. God is faithful and He will not forsake me. No words in any language could describe the life of a Christian. Each day is a gift from the Lord and not a single step we take is unguided.

I often look at the examples of men such as Martin Luther, John Bunyan, and Charles Spurgeon. Their testimonies are truly powerful. I am reminded while reading their writings that we serve the same Master. The same Savior who shed His precious blood for their sins also shed His blood for me. There is infinite depth in that Christ would sacrifice Himself for one as wretched as me. Sometimes I take too lightly the gift of salvation, not discerning the sacrifice that was made. I pray that the Lord will keep me from taking for granted all that He has done for me. There is no satisfaction, peace, or happiness in anything aside from Christ.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit.” – Romans 8:1

Love in Christ,
Caroline Tucker, USA



(NB. Sis Caroline is a member of Hope Presbyterian Church, South Carolina. She attended the ICCG Congress held in New Jersey in June 2023 and is a zealous youth committed to the Gospel and to the extension of the kingdom of God.)

**Dedication
Sunday Service @
Sovereign Hope
BPC
7 Jan 2023**



**Blessed Birthday to
Jan babies:
Agnes Ho
Bernard
Sharon
Marilyn
Joyce**



Thank God for the monthly provision of fellowship refreshments. We were blessed this time with delicious Pulled Pork Rice by Drs Wei Han & Agnes.

Memory Verse

Heb 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "***The Warning & Work of Christ (Heb 2:9-18)***", a new quarterly series on "***The Majesty & Supremacy of the Son of God (Book of Hebrews)***".
3. Next Sunday morning, Rev Nathan will preach on "***Admonitions from the Wilderness (Heb 3:1-14)***".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service continue as follows:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith - Pastor
 - Studies in 2 Chronicles - Dr Kwong Leen
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Kingdoms, Covenants and Canon of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551].
6. We will commemorate ***our 6th Anniversary Thanksgiving on Sun 4 Feb 2024***. Rev Philip Heng will bring us God's Word on "***Equipping a Worshipping, Working & Witnessing Transformed Church Community (Rom 12:1-13)***". Do mark the date to come and rejoice with us!
7. Pray for our brethren in their:
 - Health: Janet's full recovery from hand and leg op, Kin Hoong's continuing medical investigations, Anthony's treatment plan, Angie's brother Anson's carotid artery stent procedure on 25 Jan.
 - Travels: John Wong (13/1-19/1), Perry & Marissa (27/12- 25/1).
8. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode:218178]
9. We need willing hands and hearts to assist in the weekly cleaning of the premises. Do let Dn Yue Kay if you are available to serve in this area.
10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.
