

‘seasons’ of His Second Coming? Paul explained in verse 2 that “For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” Paul asserted that Jesus would return anytime and totally unannounced (2 Peter 3:10). Thus, the Thessalonians are to be constantly ‘ready’, though no one knows for sure exactly when He would.

The day of the Lord really serves two purposes to two categories of people. To Christians, the day of the Lord is the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 1:14); it is a day that our redemption would be completed (1 Corinthians 5:5). It is the day that He would deliver His people Israel out of tribulation. To non-Christians, ‘the day of the Lord’ would refer to the day of judgement, punishment, calamity, tribulation and disaster (Acts 2:20; Malachi 4:5; Zephaniah 1:8, 2:3, Zechariah 14:1; Obadiah 1:15; Joel 1:15).

Christ’s return or the coming of the ‘day’ itself is likened to the timing of the ‘thieves.’ It is because thieves usually do not preannounce their coming, so would the time when Christ returns as King of kings and Holy and Righteous Judge.

Nevertheless, Christ’s Second coming would not be completely ‘unknown’ to non-believers, that is to say, that they are forewarned. However, in contrast to the believers, they would not be ‘ready’ for His coming because of them possessing a false sense of security in unbelief (1 Timothy 4:1; Judges 1:18) and contempt (2 Peter 2:10, 3:3,4).

That is why Apostle Paul said in verse 3a, “For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them...” This verse denotes to us that, in the later days, the world would be caught in total surprised of ‘unreadiness’ for the coming of Christ because of their unbelief, despite of constant warnings from God’s people foretelling them of coming judgment just like in the days of Noah (Luke 17:26,27).

They would be blinded by the god of this world believing that social and political security, economic prosperity and happiness can be achieved by human effort brought in by international bodies. Unfortunately, one day they would realize that “sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape (v.3b).”

The ‘destruction’ or calamity would come suddenly when the world would still be singing: “peace and safety to the world.” This may refer to the seven year tribulation period prophesied in Daniel 9:27 (cf. Rev chapters 5-17) when antichrist shall rule the world and making covenant with nations during the three and a half year of his reign, which would be perceived as “peace and safety” to all the inhabitants of the earth. God willing, at this time, His people would have been already raptured before the official reign of antichrist as God would pour down His full wrath upon earth at the second half of the tribulation (Rev 16-17).

Whatever the scenario may be or whenever God plans to deliver His people out of tribulation in the future, God’s people must be ‘ready’ for His return all the time. Christians ought not to be caught up with the spirit of laxity and indifference concerning the imminent return of our Lord and Master, Saviour and King.

Yours humbly,

Pastor David Weng



Providence Bible-Presbyterian Church

篤信聖經長老會懷恩堂

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19th May 2019

第五期, 47号刊
2019年 五月十九日

Sunday Worship Service: 2:00 pm 主日崇拜: 下午二点, Sunday School: 2:30 pm 主日学: 下午二点半

Worship at: 聚会地址: 247 Main North Rd, Sefton Park, South Australia 5083

Mailing Address 邮件地址: 169 Brougham Dr, Valley View, South Australia 5093

Email 电邮: pastor@providencebpchurch.org, Church Website 教会网址: www.providencebpchurch.org

Pastor: Pastor David Weng, Advisory Pastor: Rev. (Dr) Edward Pauwe 牧师: 翁志仁牧师, 顾问牧师: 包爱华牧师 (博士)

Landline 电话: 08 8263 9689, Mobile 手机: 0408 8068 65

How Should Christians Prepare for the Second Coming of Christ—Part 1

The world often ridicules the promised return of Christ (2 Peter 3:3,4) and this would only increase in its propensity and magnitude in their ignorance and indifference toward the impending, sudden and unannounced arrival of the divine judgment that would be consummated at the day of the Lord.

While it is a norm for the unconverted to dismiss or overlook at the importance of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and would certainly be caught by sheer wonderment and awe; such should not be the deportment and response of every born again Christian when his Lord and Master returns as the victorious King and the Holy and Righteous Judge (Revelation 19:11-21).

How should Christians prepare for the Second Coming of Christ? Since no one would know the exact date and time of His return (Mark 13:32), does it mean that God’s people should also be caught entirely by surprise and unprepared? No, God forbid.

When Apostle Paul addressed the subject of Christ’s Second Coming to the Thessalonians, he expected them to be prepared, watchful, sober and edifying in their speech and conduct in relation to their hope of the Second coming of Christ.

How should Christians today be prepared for the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in these perilous days? Let us consider the fifth chapter of Apostle Paul’s first epistle to the Thessalonians to acquire a better understanding of what God wants us to know with regard to our preparation for the Second Coming of our Lord.

Be Not Caught Totally by Surprise (vv.1-3)

First, Christians are to prepare for Christ’s Second Coming by being constantly ‘ready’ for His return. In 1 Thessalonians 5:1, Apostle Paul said, “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.”

The transition word ‘but’, obviously denotes to the reader that Apostle Paul wanted to continue his argument, following from the end of previous chapter where he mentioned our hope of resurrection when Christ Jesus returns (1 Thessalonians 4:14-18), which should also be the source of comfort and strength for all believers (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:11).

However, he said, “...the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.” Why is there no need for Paul to write to them about the ‘times’ and

ORDER OF WORSHIP

主日崇拜程序

Prelude
序乐

The Lord is in His Holy Temple
主在圣殿中

Call to Worship
宣召

Michael Noble
Michael Noble

Opening Hymn
唱诗

All People That on Earth Do Dwell
称谢歌

Invocation/Gloria Patri
祷告/荣耀颂

Responsive Reading

Acts 11:1-18
Michael Noble
使徒行传 11:1-18
翁志仁 牧师

Tithes & Offerings
奉献

Doxology & Offertory Prayer
三一颂和感恩祷告

Scripture Reading

Acts 11:19-30
Michael Noble
使徒行传 11:19-30
沈政赢 弟兄

Hymn
唱诗

There Shall be Showers of Blessing
主必赐福如雨大降

Pastoral Prayer
牧祷

Pastor David Weng
翁志仁 牧师

Sermon
证道

"The Planting of a New Church"
建立一间新的教会
Messenger: Pastor David Weng, Interpreter: Guan Bin
讲员: 翁志仁 牧师, 传译: 官 斌 姐妹

Closing Hymn
诗歌

The Church's One Foundation
教会惟一的根基

Benediction/Threefold Amen
祝祷/阿们颂

Rev. Edward Paauwe
包爱华 牧师

Silent Prayer & Postlude
默祷散会

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
愿主赐福看顾你

Announcements
报告事项

THEME FOR 2019: Make Disciples of All Nations (Matthew 28:19,20)
2019 年的教会主题: 使万民作门徒 (马太福音 28:19,20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Welcome to Providence Bible-Presbyterian Church! If you are a visitor here, please fill in the visitor's card so we can get in touch with you and please stay behind for refreshment and fellowship.**
2. If you would like to know more about today's message or the Christian gospel, please feel free to approach Pastor Weng or any of our members.
3. There is Catechism class after the service today.

MEMORY VERSE

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: (Ephesians 4:11,12)

WCF SHORTER CATECHISM

Q.20: Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

A. God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life,[1] did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.[2]

[1] Acts 13:48; Ephesians 1:4-5; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

[2] Genesis 3:15; Genesis 17:7; Exodus 19:5-6; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 20:28; 1 Corinthians 11:25; Hebrews 9:15

NEXT LORD'S DAY (26/05/19)

TITLE	RESPONSIVE READING/TEXT	MESSENGER
<i>The Wonder and Impact of God's Word</i>	Acts 13:40-52/Acts 13:13-23	Pastor David Weng

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS & NEXT LORD'S DAY (20 May 2019–26 May 2019)

DATE	MEETING/ACTIVITIES	TIME & VENUE
Wed 22 May	Prayer Meeting	7-8pm, 169 Brougham Dr, Valley View
Thurs 23 May	Ladies' Fellowship	10am, 169 Brougham Dr, Valley View
Sun 26 May	Sunday Worship Service	2:00-3:20pm, Church
Sun 26 May	Children's Sunday School	2:30-3:30pm, Church
Sun 26 May	Catechism Class	3:45-4:15pm, Church

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS (12th May 2019)

Sunday Service Attendance	20	General Offerings	\$156.85
		Mission Fund	\$20.00
		Building Fund	Total: \$1560.00

PRAYER ITEMS & SUPPLICATIONS

1. Thanksgiving: For God's providence, protection and provision in the past week. Thank God for visitors in our midst today!
2. Pray for forgiveness of sins, our personal walk with the Lord and grace to live a sanctified life.
3. Pray for the Australian government to rule our country with justice and equity and for God's guidance in the parliament.
4. Pray for God's protection upon Israel and the salvation of the Jews.
5. Pray for the escalating persecution of Chinese house church Christians across China.
6. Pray for missionaries around the world for protection, provision and for God's grace in the ministry and guidance: Brother Haiseng Lim and Evangelist Juniar and Helmi's ministry in Mentawai islands West Sumatra.
7. Pray for those who are involved in the ministry of Providence B-P Church in 2019: Pulpit, Scripture reading, sermon interpreting, music ministry, ushering, logistics & PA, Adult's/Children's Sunday School, Wed Prayer Meeting Family Fellowship, Youth Bible Study/Ministry, Ladies Fellowship, church bulletin and etc.
8. Pray for evangelistic work and outreach in and around Sefton Park.
9. Pray for Uni students: Shaun Shen, Esther Lim and Jamie Kellie. Grace Han and Evelyn Yeo planning to study in Adelaide.
10. Pray for God's provision for John and Michelle in China.
11. Pray for the salvation of family members, loved ones and friends.
12. Pray for those who are distressed over various issues in life and are discouraged for different reasons.
13. Pray for God's guidance for those who are looking for jobs: John and Michelle (China).
14. Expectant mother: Michelle Yan.
15. Health and healing: Rev. Edward Paauwe (surgery on Monday), David Paauwe, Michael Noble, & Bro. Kuan Pang Loh.

报告事项

1. 欢迎您前来笃信圣经长老会怀恩堂参加崇拜。如果您是第一次来参加崇拜, 请填写新朋友联络卡, 以便我们能与您联系! 聚会后请留下来与我们交通与团契。
2. 若您想更了解今天的信或基徒教的福音, 请向翁牧师或任何一位会友询问。
3. 今天散会后有要里问答课程。

金句背诵

11 他所赐的有使徒, 有先知, 有传福音的, 有牧师和教师, 为要成全圣徒, 各尽其职, 建立基督的身体, (以弗所书 4:11, 12)

威斯敏斯要理问答

问20: 上帝任凭全人类在罪恶和愁苦中灭亡吗?

答: 上帝既然完全因着他自己的美意, 从永恒拣选了一些人得永生[1], 便与他们立恩典之约, 藉一位救赎主把他们从罪恶和愁苦中救出来, 使他们进入得救的状况[2]。

[1] 使徒行传 13:48; 以弗所书 1:4-5; 帖撒罗尼迦后书 2:13-14

[2] 创世记 3:15; 创世记 17:7; 出埃及 19:5-6; 耶利米书 31:31-34; 马太福音 20:28; 哥林多前书 11:25; 希伯来书 9:15

下主日 (2019年 五月二十六日)

题目	启应经文/讲道经文	讲员
神的话的奇妙与影响	使徒行传 13:40-52/使徒行传 13:13-23	翁志仁 牧师

这周的聚会与下主日崇拜 (2019年 五月二十日至五月二十六日)

日期	聚会	时间与地点
礼拜三, 五月二十二日	祷告会	晚间七点, 169 Brougham, Valley View
礼拜四, 五月二十三日	姐妹团契	上午十点, 169 Brougham, Valley View
礼拜天, 五月二十六日	主日崇拜	下午二点至三点二十分, 教堂
礼拜天, 五月二十六日	儿童主日学	下午二点半至三点三十分, 教堂
礼拜天, 五月二十六日	要理问答	下午三点四十五分至四点十五分, 教堂

上主日聚会人数与奉献 (2019年 五月十二日)

主日崇拜人数	20	主日崇拜奉献	\$156.85
		宣教奉献	\$20.00
		建堂基金	总额: \$1560.00

代祷事项

1. 感谢事项: 神过去一周对我们的看顾, 保守及供应。感谢神带领新朋友来到我们当中!
2. 求神赦免我们的过犯, 使我们与祂的关系密切与恩典来过分别为圣的生活。
3. 为澳大利亚的官员能以公义来治国, 国会有神的带领祷告。
4. 为着色列国有神的保守及犹太人的救恩祷告。
5. 为着中国政府近期间针对家庭教会的逼迫祷告。
6. 为世界各地的宣教士祷告。求神保守, 供应他们一切的需要和在事工上有神的引导: 林海成传道、Juniar 和 Helmi 在西苏门达腊的福音工作祷告。
7. 为教会 2019 年的事工祷告: 讲台、讲道传译、读经、司琴、招待员、音响、成人/儿童主日学、祷告会, 家庭团契、青年查经/事工、姐妹团契和其它事工。
8. 为在 Sefton Park 和邻近地区的传福音工作祷告。
9. 为着大学学生祷告: 沈政赢弟兄、林慧婷姐妹与 Jamie Kellie。Grace Han 与杨依玲计划要在阿德莱得读大学。
10. 为马益明弟兄与闫晓蕾姐妹有神的供应祷告。
11. 为还未得救的家人、亲戚与朋友祷告。
12. 为那些在生活上面面对挑战而需要鼓励的弟兄姐妹祷告。
13. 为在找工作的弟兄姐妹与朋友有神的带领来祷告: 马益明弟兄与马益明弟兄与闫晓蕾姐妹 (中国)。
14. 为身孕的姐妹祷告: 闫晓蕾姐妹。
15. 身体健康与不适: 包爱华牧师、David Pauwe、Michael Noble 与罗宽邦弟兄。

19/5/2019

The Planting of a New Church
建立一间新的教会
Acts 11:19-30 使徒行传 11:19-30

I. Its Beginning 新的教会的开始 (vv.19-21)

II. Its Increase 新的教会的增长 (vv.22-26a)

III. Its Impact 新的教会影响 (vv.26b-30; 13:1-3)

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