

This comes at just the time when the Chinese authorities are cracking down on Christians; new regulations came into force on 1 February which **'will require religious leaders and organisations to display complete devotion to the Chinese Communist Party.'**

We know too that the LORD has ordained the exact number of our days. Job 15:5, 'Seeing **his days are determined**, The number of his months is with thee, And thou hast appointed his bounds that He cannot pass.'

By the way, nothing in all creation can alter the time and the manner of our death—it will be whatever the Lord in His sovereign, wise and gracious will has ordained. It cannot be brought by so-called **'bad luck'** (which doesn't exist) causing us to get infected and die **'before our time'** (which cannot happen).

In a sense, we are **'immortal'** until our work is done on earth, or until the day that we are ordained to depart this world. So, Jesus tells us not to be anxious or worried, because it will not add a cubit unto the measure of our life or one more an hour to our lifespan (Mathew 6:27).

2. We Should Bear Witness to the Coming Judgment of God

Pestilences are one of the 'signs of the times' Jesus mentions in Luke 21:10-11, '10 Then said He unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; 11 and there shall be great earthquakes, and in divers places famines and **pestilences**; and there shall be terrors and great signs from heaven.'

These things will characterise the approach of the return of Christ. Of course, these things have always been true of human history, but in the parallel passage in Matthew 24:8, Jesus describes these things as **the beginning of travail** and He was referring to woman's birth pains. As a birth approaches the contractions are closer together, more intense, more painful.

Isn't that the point about the signs of the times? As we draw closer to the Lord's return, these things become more frequent, more intense, more painful? So, we are kept alert, in a constant state of readiness for the Lord's return, without ever being able to predict a specific date. It is always imminent, but never predictable. Every generation will think, with genuine cause, 'It could happen in my lifetime'.

Every outbreak of pestilence, whether a localised epidemic or a global pandemic, should remind us of the Lord's words, and force the question upon us, 'Am I ready for Christ's return? Have I bowed the knee to Jesus as Lord? Am I living the faithful, godly life He has called me to? Will I be put to shame at his appearing?'

The coronavirus or Covid-19 should impress upon us afresh that this world is passing away, that history is not going round in circles but heading towards a great and terrible Day of judgment. It should drive us to the cross to pray and witness to the lost around us with ever greater urgency.

It is striking how frightened so many people are by this virus. It has shaken the world, perhaps especially the economically developed nations of the world like Korea, Japan and the US, where people feel immune and secure against so many dangers.

But now they are confronted by a force that their wealth and medical advances cannot save them from; there is no vaccine at present (at least not readily available), though some scientists have claimed to have developed one.

This virus is no respecter of persons. It cannot be contained. The world is at its mercy. And, it seems that majority of people of world may eventually be contracted with this disease as WHO suggest though most cases remain non-life threatening.

Yet, how much more terrified should people be of the judgment of God when it sweeps over them suddenly, unstopably, affecting **every person** who has ever lived on this planet, no matter where in the world they are and how they live their lives? This pandemic, and every pandemic, is a small, pale shadow of the ultimate judgment of God. The Bible says, 'For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23). The Bible also says, "The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23a)

Those who perish without Christ will have no second chance or 'cure' available to their awful condition. And yet there is a vaccine for God's judgment. There is a cure—but they must receive this 'cure' before they perish into eternity!

The cure is only found in Jesus Christ, who bore the full effects of the 'virus' of our sin to deliver that cure by shedding His blood to redeem mankind from this world's misery.

Would you receive Jesus Christ, the only cure from the 'virus' of sin which inevitably leads to death and eternal punishment in hell? Look to no other—Jesus is your only hope of your salvation! Delay it not—for tomorrow may never come! Put your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ by calling upon His Name and be saved today!

Pastor David Weng



Providence Bible-Presbyterian Church

篤信圣经长老会怀恩堂

Volume VI, Bulletin No. 36
8th March 2020

第六期, 36期
2020年 三月八日

Sunday Worship Service: 3:00 pm 主日崇拜: 下午三点, Sunday School: 3:30 pm 主日学: 下午三点半

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 Shall Christians Respond to Coronavirus?

Self-isolation; pandemic; super spreader; coronavirus; COVID-19. These are just a few of the words that have become part of everyday conversation in the weeks since the first outbreak of a novel coronavirus was reported in Wuhan, China on 31 December 2019 though the exact origin of this virus is still debatable. As of today (7th March 2020) there are 102,262 confirmed cases and have been 3,497 deaths worldwide and the numbers are rising. Some experts say that the cases of infection are thought to be much higher than have been reported some countries like Iran and even the United States. Of course, there is reason for concern, but how should we as Christians respond to an event like this? Let me suggest two.

1. We Should Bear Witness to the Peace of God

Christians are to be characterised by peace in the face of anxious circumstances. Isaiah 26:3-4, '3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose **mind is stayed on thee**: because He **trusteth in thee**. 4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.'

Where does the Christian's peace come from? From **staying our minds on God and trusting him**. Whenever trouble threatens, we need to stay our minds on the Lord. We need to remind ourselves of the many great truths about Him that we have learnt through countless sermons, hours of Bible studies and personal reading and devotion.

We believe, for example, in the Sovereignty of God. That is something we need to stay our mind on as this virus spreads to every country and comes closer to our doors in Australia. We believe that the Lord is King over all the forces of nature and He is in total control of our lives and situations around us.

Psalms 29 tells us that the Lord sends forth his voice (as He did in the beginning at Creation) and nature obeys Him. Verse 10 says 'The LORD sitteth upon the **flood**; yea, the LORD sitteth **King** for ever.' The word for flood is the word used of the great flood in Noah's day — a fearful disaster that engulfed every nation and every creature with the breath of life in its nostrils in Noah's time. Yet the LORD was in control of that, bringing His good and righteous purposes to pass.

As the Lord asked Job in Job 38:8-11 '8 ...who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? 9 When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it, 10 And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, 11 And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?'

God sets limits not just for the waves but for **everything in the universe!** The waters of the flood are often a symbol in Scripture for evil — but they are not outside of the LORD's will. Viruses, no less than the waters, are subject to His Almighty will. As the late R.C. Sproul used to say, **there cannot be a single maverick molecule anywhere in the universe that is outside of God's sovereignty.**

Not only is the LORD Sovereign, but He is infinitely wise. Romans 11:33, 'O the depth of the riches both of the **wisdom and knowledge of God!** how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!'

That means not only that He knows what is best, but that He knows the best way of bringing about what is best. The LORD is also gracious. He is sovereignly working all things for the good of His people. As the familiar verse in Romans 8:28 says, 'And we know that all things **work together for good to them that love God**, to them who are the called according to his purpose.' Yes, 'all things' include the outbreak of coronavirus!

That's something we need to stay our minds on, if we want to know **perfect peace**. God knows what He is doing — and what He is doing is working all things for the good of His people!

We may not always understand the details of God's plan, but we know that it is perfect. Who knows how the Lord will use this disease in China, for example, where the Christians of Wuhan (and there are many) and many other places have put themselves in harm's way to show Christ's love and help the suffering people of the city.

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

Pastor David Weng
翁志仁 牧师

Opening Hymn
唱诗

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!
你当欢欣!

Invocation/Gloria Patri
祷告/荣耀颂

Responsive Reading
启应经文

Psalm 13-14
Michael Noble
诗篇 13-14
翁志仁 牧师

Tithes & Offerings
奉献

Doxology & Offertory Prayer
三一颂和感恩祷告

Scripture Reading
读经

Genesis 1:27,28
Michael Noble
创世记 1:27,28
翁志仁 牧师

Lord's Supper
圣餐

Rev. Edward Paauwe
包爱华 牧师

Hymn: *Hallelujah! What A Saviour*
唱诗: 哈利路亚! 奇妙救主

Pastoral Prayer
牧祷

Pastor David Weng
翁志仁 牧师

Sermon
证道

"Make Your Work Count"
使你的工作有意义
Messenger: Pastor David Weng
讲员: 翁志仁 牧师

Closing Hymn
诗歌

Thou My Everlasting Portion
救主是我永远福分

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 2020: Growing in Grace and Knowledge (2 Peter 3:18)
2020年的主题: 在恩典和知识上有长进 (彼得后书 3:18)

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! Please also stay behind for fellowship and refreshment.
2. If you would like to know more about today's message or the Christian gospel, please feel free to approach Pastor Weng or Rev. Edward Paauwe.
3. The church thanks Rev. Paauwe for conducting the Lord's Supper for us. May God bless him!
4. There is Easter Church Camp from 10th to 13th April 2020. All are welcome. Speaker: Rev Willy Ng from Criswell Tabernacle, Singapore.
5. There is Youth Bible Study and Catechism Class today.
6. There is no ladies' Fellowship this Tuesday.

MEMORY VERSE

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;
(Colossians 3:23)

WCF SHORTER CATECHISM

Q. 62: What are the reasons annexed to the fourth commandment?

A. The reasons annexed to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments,[1] his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath day.[2]

[1] Exodus 20:9; Exodus 31:15; Leviticus 23:3

[2] Genesis 2:2-3; Exodus 20:11; Exodus 31:17

NEXT LORD'S DAY (15/03/2020)

TITLE	RESPONSIVE READING/TEXT	MESSENGER
Make Our Rest Count	Psalms 15-16/Gen 2:1-3	Pastor David Weng

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS & NEXT LORD'S DAY (9 Mar – 15 Mar 2020)

DATE	MEETING/ACTIVITIES	TIME & VENUE
Tues 10 Mar	Ladies' Fellowship	Cancelled
Wed 11 Mar	Prayer Meeting	7pm, 169 Brougham Dr, Valley View
Sun 15 Mar	Sunday Worship Service	3pm, Church
Sun 15 Mar	Children's Sunday School	3:30pm, Church
Sun 15 Mar	WCF Shorter Catechism Class	5pm, Church
Sun 15 Mar	Youth Bible Study	5pm, Church

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS (1st March 2020)

Sunday Service Attendance	20	General Offerings	\$275.00
		Mission Fund	\$40.00
		Direct Deposit	\$113.00
		Building Fund	Total: \$1,630.30

PRAYER ITEMS & SUPPLICATIONS

1. Thanksgiving: For God's providence, protection and provision in the past week. Pray for forgiveness of sins, our personal walk with the Lord and growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank God for safe arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Zhao (China) and Bach Zhao (Adelaide).
2. Pray for the Australian government to rule our country with justice and equity and for God's guidance in the parliament.
3. Pray for God's protection upon Israel and the salvation of the Jews.
4. Pray for the escalating persecution of Chinese house church Christians across China. Also pray for the persecuted Christians around the world.
5. Pray for Hong Kong's situation be resolved and for protection for Christians.
6. Pray for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in China and around the world, especially for recovery and developing its cure.
7. Pray for missionaries around the world for protection, provision and for God's grace in the ministry and guidance: Rev. Sun Sohka, Mrs. Nam Soon and family (Faith Church, Phnom Penh), Pastor Kimhak and family (Bak Deng Village, Phnom Penh), Evangelist Juniar and Helmi (Nusa Tenggara Timur), and Brother Haiseng Lim (Melbourne).
8. Pray for those who are involved in the ministry of Providence B-P Church this year: the Pulpit, Scripture reading, music ministry, ushering, logistics & PA, Children's Sunday School, Wed Prayer Meeting, Chinese Bible Study, Youth Bible Study, Ladies Fellowship, church bulletin, evangelism and etc.
9. Pray for evangelistic work and outreach in and around Sefton Park.
10. Pray for the Gospel Sunday on Sunday, 29th March. Speaker: Deacon Kevin Low.
11. Pray for students: Pray for Jamie Kellie (Uni), Lily, Jiawei, Bach Zhao & Evelyn Yeo (Foundation Year). Pray for primary and secondary students.
12. Pray for the salvation of family members, loved ones and friends.
13. Pray for those who are distressed over various issues in life and are discouraged for different reasons.
14. Health and healing: Rev. & Mrs. Edward Paauwe, David Paauwe, Michael Noble, Bro. Kuan Pang Loh (Singapore) & others.
15. Journey Mercies: Ellie Xu Fan (Adelaide).

报告事项

1. 欢迎您前来笃信圣经长老会怀恩堂参加崇拜！如果您是第一次来怀恩堂聚会，请您填写新朋友联络卡，以便我们好与你们联系！聚会后请留下来与一同团契与茶叙。
2. 若您想更了解今天的信息或基徒教的福音，请向翁牧师或包牧师寻问。
3. 本教会感谢包牧师给我们主持圣餐。愿神赐福于他！
4. 今年的复活节营会会在星期五四月十号至星期一四月十四号举行。请弟兄姐妹们参加。讲员：Willy Ng 牧师（新加坡 Criswell Tabernacle）。
5. 今天有青年查经班和要理问答课程。
6. 这个礼拜二姐妹团契将暂停。

金句背诵

無論作甚麼，都要從心裏作，像是給 主作的，不是給人作的（歌罗西书 3:23）

威斯敏斯要理问答

问 62：第四条诫命所附加的理由是什么？

答：第四条诫命所附加的理由是：上帝让我们一周之内有六日作自己的工[1]，他要我们特别尊重第七日，他自己也作了榜样，并且赐福于安息日[2]。

[1] 出埃及 20:9；出埃及 31:15；利未记 23:3

[2] 创世记 2:2-3；出埃及 20:11；出埃及 31:17

下主日 (2020年 三月十五日)

题目	启应经文/讲道经文	讲员
使你的休息有意义	诗篇 15-16/创世记 2:1-3	翁志仁牧师

这周的聚会与下主日崇拜(2020年 三月九日至三月十五日)

日期	聚会	时间与地点
礼拜二, 三月十日	姐妹团契	暂停
礼拜三, 三月十一日	祷告会	晚间七点, 169 Brougham Dr, Valley View
礼拜天, 三月十五日	主日崇拜	下午三点, 教堂
礼拜天, 三月十五日	儿童主日学	下午三点半, 教堂
礼拜天, 三月十五日	威斯敏斯特小要理问答	下午五点, 教堂
礼拜天, 三月十五日	青年查经班	下午五点, 教堂

上主日聚会人数与奉献 (2019年三月一日)

主日崇拜人数	20	主日崇拜奉献	\$275.00
		宣教奉献	\$40.00
		电子转账	\$113.00
		建堂基金	总额: \$1,630.30

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！求神赦免我们的过犯，使我们与祂的关系密切与在主耶稣基督的恩典和知识上有长进。感谢神带领及保守赵伯父与赵伯母平安回到中国。感谢神带领及保守赵一凡弟兄平安回到阿德莱德。
2. 为澳大利亚的官员能以公义来治国，国会有神的带领祷告。
3. 为着色列国有神的保守及犹太人的救恩祷告。
4. 为着中国政府近期间针对家庭教会的逼迫祷告。也为着世界各地被逼迫的基督徒祷告。
5. 为着香港最近的情况祷告。求神保守当地的基督徒。
6. 为着在中国与世界各国蔓延开来的冠状病毒（武汉肺炎，COVID-19）祷告。求神医治与尽快找到治疗的方法。
7. 为世界各地的宣教工作祷告。求神保守，供应他们一切的需要和在事工上有神的引导：孙苏哈牧师 Sun Sokha (信心教会, 金边), 金赫 Kimhak 传道 (巴登村, 金边), 何米与君尼 Helmi & Juniar (东努沙登加拉州古邦), 林海成传道 (墨尔本) 的宣教事工祷告。
8. 为教会今年的服侍人员祷告：讲台、读经、司琴、招待员、音响、儿童主日学、祷告会，中文查经班，青年查经班、姐妹团契、周报，传福音和其它事工。
9. 为着在 Sefton Park 和邻近地区的传福音工作祷告。
10. 为着三月二十九日的福音主日祷告。讲员：刘伟荣执事。
11. 为着就读的学生祷告：Jamie Kellie (大学), Lily, 嘉微(大学), 赵一帆 (大学) 与杨依玲(大学预备生)。也为着小学生与中学生的学业祷告。
12. 为还未得救的家人、亲戚与朋友祷告。
13. 为着那些在生活上面对挑战而需要鼓励的弟兄姐妹祷告。
14. 身体健康与不适: 包爱华牧师与师母、David Paauwe、Michael Noble、罗宽邦弟兄(新加坡) 与其他人。
15. 外出平安与神的保守: Ellie Xu Fan (阿德莱德)。

Make Your Work Count

使你的工作有意义

Genesis 1:27,28 创世纪 1:27,28

I. Vocation – View your work as God’s calling 职业-按照主的话来看待你的工作

A. God created you to work (Genesis 1:27-28, 2:15) 主创造人是让我们来做工的 (创世纪 1:27-28, 2:15)

B. All work is ministry (Colossians 3:23-24) 所有工作都是在侍奉 (歌罗西书 3:23-24)

II. Service – Know who your REAL boss is 服事——知道真正的主人是谁

A. Work as serving the Lord (Ephesians 6:5-8) 像服事主一样工作 (以弗所书 6:5-8)

B. Work to serve others (Ephesians 4:28) 工作为服事他人 (以弗所书 4:28)

III. Witness – How you work matters 见证 — 怎样使你的工被重视

A. Work hard (Ecclesiastes 9:10) 努力工作 (传道书 9:10)

B. Work with integrity (Colossians 3:22-24) 带着正气来工作 (歌罗西书 3:22-24)

C. Work to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17) 为了荣耀主而工作 (哥林多前书 10:31 ; 歌罗西书 3:17)

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