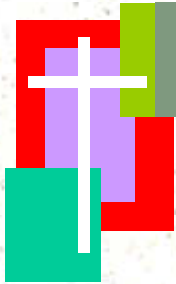


Christian Message



KLANG CHURCH OF CHRIST

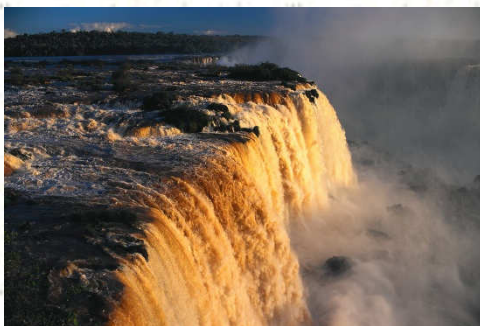
Volume No. XXI Issue No. 37

September 12, 2010

“I shall have peace, even though I walk in the imagination of my heart”

Deut 29:19

By Steven Chan



In Deut 29:14-21, God through His prophet Moses spoke to the people of Israel concerning His covenant with them:

"I make this covenant and this oath, not with you alone, but also with him who stands here with us today before the LORD our God, as well as with him who is not here with us today (for you know that we dwelt in the land of Egypt and that we came through the nations which you passed by, and you saw their abominations and their idols which were among them--wood and stone and silver and gold); so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the

LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations, and that there may not be among you a root bearing bitterness or wormwood; and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I walk in the imagination of my heart'--as though the drunkard could be included with the sober. The LORD would not spare him; for then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy would burn against that man, and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him, and the LORD would blot out his name from under heaven."

The Lord having delivered Israel warned them against the danger of turning their hearts from the Lord – specifically He warned against the one who “when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I walk in the imagination of my heart'”. The attitude of heart that unequivocally rejects what God has said and in open rebellion defies what God has said, and instead blesses himself in his heart, saying: “I shall have peace, even though I walk in the imagination of my heart”. Do

Sermons in September: “Receiving All Spiritual Blessings in Christ”

- THE BLESSING OF BEING ACCEPTED BY GOD - KOAY CHUAN LEK
- THE BLESSING OF AN INHERITANCE - RICK KIRK
- THE BLESSING OF BEING STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT - RICHARD LIM
- THE BLESSING OF FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT - STEVEN CHAN

I shall have peace

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“ READ THE
SCRIPTURES SO
THAT WE CAN
INCLINE OUR
EARS TO THE
COUNSEL OF
GOD ”

we come across some people who demonstrate this same attitude today? Are there not many today who “walk in the imagination of their heart” and not in accordance with what God has revealed to them? They blatantly affirm that “all will be well with their soul” while they defy God’s Word.

The Lord warns thus: “The LORD would not spare him; for then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy would burn against that man, and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him, and the LORD would blot out his name from under heaven.”

In spite of God’s warning, we read in Jer 7:24-26, the sad and tragic observation by God concerning Israel: “Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but followed the counsels and the dictates of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward. Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them. Yet they did not obey Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.”

The children of Israel who dwelt in the land promised by the Lord to Abraham chose not to incline their ears to the counsel of God; instead they chose to follow the counsels and dictates of their own evil hearts. How about us today? Do we read the Scriptures so that we can incline our ears to the counsel of God? Or, are some of us walking according to what our worldly friends tell us or what our own hearts dictate? Their forefathers brought them into the Promised Land but they have forgotten how they got there. Is it the same with some of us today? Some today would say that we need to progress by leaving behind the baggage that our forefathers brought with them. But little do they realize that by jettisoning this so-called baggage, they are actually going backward and not forward – that’s God’s indictment!

Listen to the counsel of God as recorded in Prov 28:-

Verse 9: “One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination;”

Have we ever wondered why sometimes God did not give us what we pray for?

Could it be because some of us have turned our ears away from hearing the Word of God?

Verses 14, 25-26: “Happy is the man who is always reverent, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity... He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, but he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered. He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but whoever walks wisely will be delivered.”

Do we recognize the state of our hearts? Are we reverent or respectful of God, His Word and our brethren? Are our hearts hardened and insensitive to the instructions of God? Are we proud because of our achievements? Have we become a people who trust our own hearts rather than to trust in the Lord? God says that the one who trusts in his own heart is a fool!

In Heb 3:12-14, Christians are similarly warned: “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end...”

Brethren, we are always in danger of departing from the Lord though unbelief and the “hardening of our hearts because of the deceitfulness of sin”. We need to be aware that we have become partakers of Christ ONLY IF we hold the beginning of our confidence and faith steadfast to the end. It is not just the beginning or the fact that we have chosen to follow Jesus – it’s the question of whether “we hold steadfast until the end”. The tragedy is that along life’s road, some have been hit with bumps that sometimes cause them to fall by the wayside and they give up their faith.

In Heb 12:3-4, we are encouraged to consider the example of Jesus: “For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.” Our struggle often does not result in any bloodshed – unlike the case of Jesus who had to shed His blood on the cross because of our sins.

“For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in

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I shall have peace

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“ RESOLVE
NEVER TO
WALK IN THE
IMAGINATION
OF OUR OWN
HEARTS ”

the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober."(1 Thess 5:2-6).

While there are those who claim that they "shall have peace, even though they walk in the imagination of their hearts", the Bible warns that "when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape." God's truth will eventually triumph. Let's not wait until it's too late.

Remember the case of the rich man who had finally attained financial independence in Luke 12:19-21 when he said: "I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." 'But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." But the premature ending of his life and the deprivation of continued enjoyment of his earthly success were not all that the rich man suffered – as illustrated in the case recorded in Luke 16:22-

23, where "the rich man also died and was buried. And (found himself) being in torments in Hades." Do we know where we will go after death? Do we want to avoid the fate of that rich man who was oblivious to what would befall him after his death? Ignorance is not bliss in his case.

Brethren, we need to "fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."(Matt 10:28). Let's not behave as "fools" by seeking to attain to the status where we can say, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry!" We need to be rich towards God: "Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."(1 Tim 6:17-19). May we all resolve never to walk in the imagination of our own hearts!



May we heed the Word of the Lord to: "trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones."(Prov 3:5-8).

DOING WELL IN EXAMS


A COMMUNITY SERVICE BY KOTA KEMUNING CHURCH OF CHRIST

FREE SEMINAR

YES,
YOU
CAN DO
WELL!

GETTING YOURSELF PREPARED



The Speaker, Mdm Lee Pak Hui is a school counsellor who has trained many students to excel in their exams, including her own children.

Date : 25th Sept 2010 (Sat)
Time : 3.00pm to 5.00pm
Venue : 48, Jalan Anggerik Vanilla 31W/W, Kota Kemuning, Shah Alam, Selangor

We invite PMR and SPM students who will be sitting for the upcoming examinations to join us for a 2 hour workshop conducted by a professional teacher.

This seminar will help students prepare mentally and emotionally, impart the skills in proper revision, leading to better performance in exams, and higher grades.

CANCELLED

To book a place, call us @
0193251961 (LIM) OR 0123218779 (SAM)

GOOD EXAM RESULTS - THE
KEY TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Website: www.kota_kemuningchurchofchrist.org Email: kkechurchofchrist@gmail.com

Baptism in Kota Kemuning

On September 9, at 8.15pm, at Kota Kemuning church of Christ, **Jamie Tang** was baptized into Christ. Bro Roger Campbell has been studying with him for few months. Let us remember him in our prayers. Jamie is living at the Canal Garden, Kota Kemuning in the same area where Roger is living.

Jamie is doing law (1st year) at Brickfield. We rejoice with Jamie and the brethren in Kota Kemuning.

Our Visitors and Visiting Brethren



VISITORS

September 3, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Guest of Tan Ern Shern)
- Alvin Lee

September 5, 2010

- Ong Jae Wen (Tan Ern Shern)
- Chan Siew Meng (Richard Lim)
- Michael Ng
- Alvin Lee
- Dr & Mrs Cheong Wen Hoon (Chuan

Lek)

VISITING BRETHREN

September 3, 2010

- Wong Su Kang
- Loke Poi Ching & Penny Tan (SJ)
- Paul Goh & family (Jurong)

September 5, 2010

- Daniel Ooi (England)
- Quay Wei Li (Kuala Terengganu)



Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim 2:15)

Services This Week (September 12, 2010)

Adult Bible Class

Lesson: Parables of Jesus - The Rich Fool (Lk 12:13-21)
Teacher: Ng Yeow Kong

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Building Blocks of Faith
Teacher: Steven Chan

Worship

Lesson: The Blessing of an Inheritance
Preacher: Rick Kirk

Helpers

Communion: Alix Tay & Jenny Tee
Floral Display: Phelo Lopez

Statistics for week September 3 - 5, 2010

Friday Bible Class Attendance	-	59
Sunday Bible Class	-	74
Sunday English Worship	-	98
Children in attendance	-	23
Mandarin Worship	-	21
TOTAL SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	-	140

Services Next Week (September 19, 2010)

Adult Bible Class

Lesson: Parables of Jesus - The Barren Fig Tree (Lk 13:6-9)
Teacher: Richard Lim

Youth Bible Class

Lesson: Building Blocks of Faith
Teacher: Steven Chan

Worship

Lesson: The Blessing of Being Strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might
Preacher: Richard Lim

Helpers

Communion: Amelin Teo & Jaslyn Chan
Floral Display: Low Poh Sim



Speak where the Bible speaks. Be silent where the Bible is silent.

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The Klang Church of Christ seeks to glorify its Founder and Head, Jesus Christ (Matt 16:18; Col 1:18), by proclaiming salvation on the same terms stated by Jesus in Mark 16:16: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved".

Having been born again (John 3:3-5) through baptism in water (Titus 3:5; Eph 5:26; 1 Pet 3:21; Rom 6:3-5), we acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus, that "Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God" (Gal 2:20). Thus, like the apostle Paul we can say, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13).

We appeal to all believers to be united in love as desired by the Lord (John 17:20-23; 13:34,35) and that all may "speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among us, but that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (1 Cor 1:10).

Denominationalism does not feature in God's plan. We urge all to leave denominationalism and to be united in One Body (Eph 2:15-17) on the basis of what the Bible says (and to leave aside the teachings and traditions that are man-made as these are the cause of division among believers). "The churches of Christ greet you". (Rom 16:16)

We're on the web. Visit us at <http://www.klangchurchofchrist.org>

Visit the Youth Blogsite at
<http://youths-kcoc.blogspot.com>

Visit the Sunday School Blogsite at
www.ahadschool.blogspot.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Our young ones who will sitting for various examinations:-
- 1. UPSR - Leow Huey Li, Julius Koh, Calvin Preamsath, Edward & Cheah Ya Nan
- 2. PMR - Daryl Kirk, Heng Jiao Faye, Kavita, Leow Huey Jean, Erica & Lim Chia Chin
- 3. SPM - Bithiah, Leow Huey Shien, Ong Ee Ren, Isaac Samnas, Tan Ern Shern, Ong Jae Wen
- 4. STPM - Lee Tiong Lay

Please continue to pray for:

- **Bro Han Seng** (Ipoh)
- **Sis Rose Zaccheus**
- Krishnan aged 23, (a friend of **Sis Shirley Lee**), who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, and is receiving chemotherapy in the University Hospital.

BAPTISM

On September 8, two souls were added to the Lord at Subang Jaya Church:-

1. **DIONG NGYOK CHOON**
2. **CATHRYNE CHAN LAY TIN**

Cathryne is sister Diong's daughter-in law.

Sister Diong & Cathryne were introduced to the gospel by by bro Eng Kim Leng and sister Shirley. Sis Diong has been consistently attending SJ Mandarin services for the past one year. The two children of Sis Cathryne have been attending the Sunday School in Subang Jaya. Cathryne has been attending the Tuesday evening Bible Class in Bro Eng's residence for the past year also.

Bros Eng Boon and Roger Campbell have been studying with both of them for several months.

Both will place membership with SJCOG.

We rejoice with Mdm Diong, Cathryne and the brethren in Subang Jaya.