

Arise!

Newsletter of the Rise Up Men of God Ministry

APRIL 2022 · ISSUE 2

Editorial

The Chinese have a good saying 饮水思源。 It means to remember the source when we drink water. This is a basic principle of thanksgiving and gratitude. As it is with the water that we drink, so too it is the same with the fountain of Living Waters that we drink of. We must always remember the Source.

Today, we sit under the wonderfully spacious canopy of the godly heritage of the Bible-Presbyterian umbrella. But we are merely recipients of the blessing of this godly heritage. How did we arrive here today?

We certainly did not labour or toil for this spiritual heritage that we have inherited today. Most of us did not sacrifice or fight for anything that we have been blessed through the B-P movement today. We are merely drinking from the fountain which our spiritual forefathers had laboured for before us.

The B-P movement in Singapore was started in 1955. This is of no doubt the work of the Holy Spirit in the life

Our Next Meeting

Date

Monday, 2 May 2022

Time

9am—12.30pm

Message

Quit Ye Like Men! (*Jos 1:1-18*)

Speaker

Rev. Dr. Quek Suan Yew

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**It is time for us
to be done with
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of Rev. Timothy Tow who chartered his life from China to Malaysia, Hong Kong, America, Amsterdam, Israel and Singapore. God sent Rev. Tow to Singapore to start the pioneering work – to light the B-P flame in the Far East here in Singapore. Rev. Timothy Tow built God’s church here by laying the foundation upon God’s Word and Jesus Christ, the chief cornerstone.

富不过三代。 This mandarin proverb speaks of how wealth cannot be passed on successfully through 3 generations. The 1st generation toils hard; the 2nd generation sees the toil of their fathers and continues in the work; the 3rd generation is born in comfort and luxury and assumes life is like that. They squander the wealth away in a single generation.

This is also true in some ways for us today as this godly heritage and spiritual treasure – the precious and fundamental B-P movement founded solely upon God’s Word – can fall away and fall by the wayside in just a single generation.

We must not be naïve to think that the B-P movement cannot turn apostate. In fact, it is safe to say that the majority of B-P churches have already fallen by the wayside. And more than ever before, we must earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. It is time for us to be done with lesser things – it is time for men of God to rise to the fore for this spiritual battle of our lifetime. But the best of man is man at best. The assault on fundamental Christianity is relentless. Therefore, we need to seek the LORD and cry unto the LORD more than ever. Unless the Lord intervenes and work, all our endeavours will be in vain

In this issue of *Arise!*, we continue in our pursuit of God by knowing Him through our study of Theology – the study of God. May we, in understanding – be men; but in things of malice and of the world – be children.

We also take a look at the past and back into history. We trace our Singapore B-P church story, and read about the testimony of salvation of Rev. Timothy Tow – father of the Singapore B-P movement. Finally, we glean some godly counsel from Rev. Tow on the recipe to living a happy life – “Choose the right job and use it for the glory of God”.

May we catch a glimpse into the history of the B-P movement, and also into the heart and spirit of the late Rev. Timothy Tow whom the LORD had used more than 60 years ago to plant the seed and fan the flames of fundamental Christianity and Bible-Presbyterianism in Singapore.

If you would like to share your thoughts or have a testimony to share, you are welcome to email to hiswayisperfectforme@gmail.com or chuahanyong@gmail.com.

“...Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls....” Jeremiah 6:16 ❖



Rise Up Men of God Ministry

Mission

Building up godly and spiritual Christian men, husbands, and fathers in the Lord

Objectives

A Bible-based and Christ-centered ministry to help Christian men, husbands and fathers to:

1. Be skillful in the Word of God and strong in their faith
2. Be godly heads of homes to lead their wives and children to follow Christ
3. Encourage, sharpen and provoke one another unto love and good works

Messages in 2022

Quit Ye Like Men! (Jos 1:1-18)
Monday, 2 May 2022 (PH)

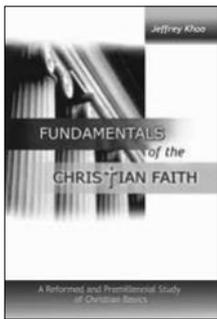
Is Your Armour On? (Jos 1:1-18)
Saturday, 30 July 2022 (5th Saturday)

All Things with Charity (Col 3:14)
Monday, 24 October 2022 (PH)

Theology

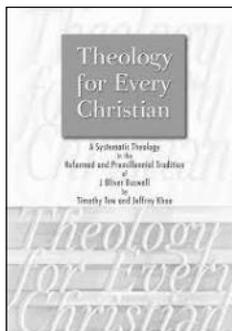
In Understanding Be Men

Source



[Fundamentals of the Christian Faith](#)

Jeffery Khoo
Far Eastern Bible College Press



[Theology for Every Christian](#) [A Systematic Theology in the Reformed and Premillennial Tradition of J Oliver Buswell](#)

Timothy Tow and Jeffery Khoo
Far Eastern Bible College Press



Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

1 Timothy 4:16

It is a miracle that the infinite Creator - Whom the entire universe which He created cannot Himself contain - would condescend to be contained in an earthly tabernacle of human flesh in order that He might suffer and die for the creatures He created.

The Creator God suffered and died for His enemies – the very creatures He created – in order to redeem them. What an unthinkable and unfathomable thought!



It is also a miracle that the infinite and unsearchable Creator God could condescend and be searched out, and known by finite creatures. He declares Himself to us daily in so clear and unmistakable a way through the power and glory of creation, and allows us to comprehend Him through His Word and Spirit.

“That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring” (Acts 17:27–28).

Being made in the image of God and likeness of God (Gen 1:26), we should yearn after Him as children their Father.

The knowability of God

Can we comprehend God? Spurgeon answered, “As well might a gnat seek to drink in the ocean, as a finite creature comprehend the Eternal God.” Read Deut 29:29, Ps 145:3, Isa 55:8-9, Rom 11:33.

The knowledge of God in man is innate—we are born to know Him. Atheistic communism’s efforts to suppress it have totally failed. The knowledge of God induces man to seek after God, which distinguishes him from animals. Being made in the image of God and likeness of God (Gen 1:26), we should yearn after Him as children their Father. It makes us aspire to immortality.

But can we know God? Calvin wrote, “True and substantial wisdom principally consists of two parts, the knowledge of God, and the knowledge of ourselves.” “Spiritual wisdom . . . consists chiefly in three things—to know God, his paternal favour towards us, on which depends our salvation, and the method of regulating our lives according to the rule of the law.” Read Ps 46:10, Phil 3:10, 2 Tim 1:12.

God has revealed Himself in two ways:

- i) General revelation, and
- ii) Special revelation.

General or Natural Knowledge of God

Man has a natural know-ledge of God. His knowledge of God in man is innate. Man, being made in the image of God, is a spiritual being (Gen 1:26-27, 2:7). Creation itself reveals that God exists (Ps 19:1-2, Rom 1:19-20).

Although man is able to know that God exists, he is unable to know who He really is. This is because man’s knowledge of God has been corrupted by sin (Rom 1:21-23). Consider all the false notions on God that man has:

- i) Agnosticism (God cannot be known),
- ii) Atheism (there is no God),
- iii) Deism (God exists but does not care),
- iv) Humanism (Man is God),
- v) Materialism (Money is God),
- vi) Pantheism (All is God, God is all), and
- vii) Polytheism (there are many Gods).

Man has no excuse not to know God. Being fallen into sin, however, instead of worshipping the Creator, he has turned to worship the things God has created. The Bible says this is the result

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of his willful ignorance and vain imagination. For rejecting God, man has fallen deeper and deeper into darkness and the grossest idolatry (Rom 1:21–23). And idolatry is condemned in the strongest possible terms:

“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments”

(Exod 20:4–6) Second Commandment



Now, idolatry includes polytheism, that is, the worship of many gods. Alongside polytheism, we have other forms of idolatry, and the other extreme to polytheism is atheism. For to say there is no God, man is flouting his Creator, and he prides himself to be a “free thinker.” Agnosticism which says that God cannot be known is no different from the Athenian altar on Mars Hill, “TO THE UNKNOWN GOD” (Acts 17:23). Deism which says God exists but is no more exercising control over His creation is another form of epicureanism, and pantheism which says God is all and all is God is a foolish concept. Humanism is the exaltation of man and worship of himself. Materialism, which is mammonism, makes the mighty dollar the Almighty.

There is really no need to argue. The existence of God is a fact. If man denies this fact, the judgement of God he will face. (Romans 1:18 -32) However, general revelation or natural knowledge does not save.

**True or saving
knowledge
comes from the
light of the Holy
Scriptures**

Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF) 1:1 —*Although the light of nature, and the works of creation and providence do so far manifest the goodness, wisdom, and power of God, as to leave men inexcusable; yet they are not sufficient to give that knowledge of God, and of his will, which is necessary unto salvation: therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in divers manners, to reveal himself, and to declare that his will unto his church; and afterwards, for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing: which maketh the holy Scripture to be most necessary; those former ways of God's revealing his will unto his people being now ceased.*

In order to know God in a personal way, special revelation is required.

Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC)

Q 2: How doth it appear that there is a God?

Answer: The very light of nature in man, and the works of God, declare plainly that there is a God; but his Word and Spirit only, do sufficiently and effectually reveal him unto men for their salvation.

Special or Revealed Knowledge of God

Written Word

True or saving knowledge comes from the light of the Holy Scriptures (Ps 19:7- 11, John 20:31, 1 John 5:13). According to Calvin, the Word of God is like a pair of spectacles. It helps us to see clearly who God really is.

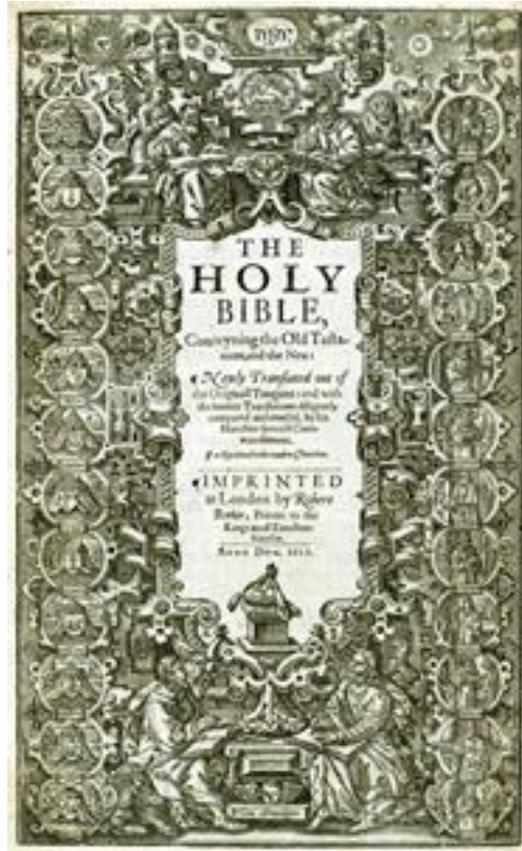
Living Word

Perfect knowledge of God the Father may be found only in God the Son—the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:1-2, 14-18; 14:8-10, 1 John 1:1-4, 2:13-14). God the Spirit must illumine the heart and mind of sinful man before there can be any real understanding of the Written Word and true reception of the Living Word (John 16:7-15, 1 Cor 2:1-12, 1 John 2:27).

WCF 1:5-6 —*We may be moved and induced by the testimony of the church to an high and reverent esteem of the holy Scripture; and the heavenliness of the matter, the efficacy of the doctrine, the majesty of the style, the consent of all the parts, the scope of the whole (which is, to give all glory to God), the full discovery it makes of the only way of man's salvation, the many other incomparable excellencies, and the entire perfection thereof, are arguments whereby it doth abundantly evidence*

The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture

itself to be the Word of God: yet notwithstanding, our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth and divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.



The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit or traditions of men.

Nevertheless, we acknowledge the inward illumination of the Spirit of God to be necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word: and there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God, and government of the church, common to human actions and societies, which are to be ordered by the light of nature, and Christian prudence, according to the general rules of the Word, which are always to be observed.

Progressive Revelation

God revealed Himself gradually and progressively through a period of time as seen in biblical history (Heb 1:1-2).

Old Testament (OT)

He revealed Himself progressively in the OT by means of:

- i) Visions and dreams (Num 12:6-8),
- ii) His speech (1 Sam 3:1-9),
- iii) Theophanies or Christophanies (Gen 18:1, 32:24-30, Josh 5:13-15) and
- iv) The writings of His prophets (Jer 36:1-2, Luke 16:29).

The canon is closed. Nothing is to be added to or subtracted from God's Word.

New Testament (NT)

In the NT, He revealed Himself personally and completely in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:14, 18; 4:24-26; 14:9, Heb 1:1-3). We need the NT to fully understand the OT. Thus, “the Old is by the New explained, the New is in the Old contained,” and “the New is in the Old concealed, the Old is by the New revealed” (Eph 2:20).

We have the complete revelation of God in the 66 books of the Holy Bible. The canon is closed. Nothing is to be added to or subtracted from God's Word (1 Cor 13:8-10, Rev 22:18-19).

Westminster Shorter Catechism (WSC)

Q 2: What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

Answer: The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him. ❖

Read and Discuss

Questions for you and your family

- 1) How would you go about explaining to an atheist that God exists?
- 2) In evangelism, is it necessary to prove that God exists before sharing the Gospel?

Calvary Pandan
B-P Church

Start



End

Ghim Moh Market
& Hawker Centre

CYCLE.FELLOWSHIP.BRUNCH

Rise Up Men of God - Meetup Event

SATURDAY, 11th JUNE 2022

Calvary Pandan B-P Church ▶ Ghim Moh Market & Hawker Centre

7.45am Meetup for Cycling

9.00am Meetup for Brunch

For more information, reach out to Bro. Henry Ko 98436032, Bro. David Sim 96524179, Bro. Kenneth Cheng 84280460 or Dn. Simon Chua 82183570

If you need a bike,
let us know
via this QR code,
or via this [link](#).



The Old Path and the Good Way

Source



[The Singapore B-P Church](#)

[Story](#)

[Timothy Tow](#)

[Life Book Centre](#)



Thus saith the LORD, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls...

Jeremiah 6:16

Although Bible Presbyterianism arrived on the shores of Singapore in the 1950s, the B-P movement was started in America by a small but godly group of men in Philadelphia more than a decade before in 1937.

The essence of Bible Presbyterianism was first given in a write-up in *The Christian Beacon* on August 31, 1939, under the caption, “Bible Presbyterian Synod Founded”.

It is clear that the B-P movement arose as a result of Biblical Separation against the rise of modernism, compromise, indifferentism and worldliness that had caused the Presbyterian Church of USA (PCUSA) to turn apostate.

In addition, she also held steadfastly to her premillennial position, total abstinence from alcohol, and cooperation in missions as long as they were fundamental.

This is the birth of the Bible Presbyterian movement as it was first told:

“On the evening of June 4, 1937, a small but prayerful group of men met in one of the assembly rooms of the St James Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After much waiting on the Lord and earnest conference together, those present formed themselves into “The Bible Presbyterian Synod”.

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

At this meeting there was drawn up a document entitled, "Articles of Association of the Bible Presbyterian Fellowship," which was signed by those present and, within a short time, by a few others. The "Articles of Association" are as follows:

For the sake of fellowship in the principles for which we stand, and as a testimony to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and because of the official apostasy of the Presbyterian Church in the USA, and because of the departure of the Presbyterian Church of America from the historic position of American Presbyterianism, we, a group of ministers and ruling elders, do associate ourselves together in the Bible Presbyterian Synod.

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice. We reaffirm our faith in the system of doctrine set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms in the form in which they stood in the constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the USA in May, 1936. We propose to amend these standards in any particular in which the premillennial teaching of the Scriptures may be held to be obscured. We reaffirm our belief in the fundamental principles of Presbyterian Church polity.

We appoint as a convening committee for the next meeting of the Bible Presbyterian Synod the ministers in Philadelphia area who are signers of this document, and this committee shall have power to represent and act for us, ad interim, in ecclesiastical matters, such as the receiving and organizing of presbyteries connected with the Synod, the receiving and disbursing of funds, and other related matters, with the provision that their acts in this capacity shall be subject to review at our next Synod.

We heartily reaffirm our faith in and support of The Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, and join in the vigorous testimo-



First Bible Presbyterian Synod, 1938- Internet Archive- from A Brief History of the Bible Presbyterian Church and its Agencies by Margaret G. Harden

We are persuaded that the great battle in the world today is the faith of our fathers versus modernism, compromise, indifferentism, and worldliness.

ny of that Board against modernism and unbelief of all kinds.

We are persuaded that the great battle in the world today is the faith of our fathers versus modernism, compromise, indifferentism, and worldliness. With all our hearts we throw our strength into the great ask of winning lost souls to Jesus Christ by the Gospel of the Grace of God.

Those who framed these articles had been ministers of the Presbyterian Church in the USA who had withdrawn from that body, and elders who were in a like position. They had also been members of the body then known as "The Presbyterian Church of America," now called "The Orthodox Presbyterian Church." They had withdrawn from the Presbyterian Church in the USA because of its official apostasy and the recognition of their duty not to remain in fellowship with a church dominated by unbelief. They had entered the then Presbyterian Church of America in the hope that it would carry on the true spiritual succession of American Presbyterianism.

This latter hope, those who formed the Bible Presbyterian Church felt, had been frustrated by tendencies within the then Presbyterian Church of America which found more or less clear expression, both in official and nonofficial actions, at the Third General Assembly of that body held from June 1 through 4, 1937. Without impugning the sincerity of those who dominated the then Presbyterian Church of America, it was felt by many that, due to peculiar combination of circumstances, there was no possibility that the body would ever become a widespread or effective witness to the great spiritual succession of American Presbyterianism. It seemed to them that the body was dominated by a small clique who were determined to control it totally. This group represented, doubtless in all sincerity, a point of view concerning the return of our Lord and concerning the use of intoxicating liquors which it was felt by many was both contrary to the Word of God and calculated to prevent that church from ever awakening a wide response in the hearts of American Christians. So, for the sake not only of the principles at stake, but also with a view to the need for the establishment of a great nation-wide witness to the Word of God, there were many who believed that the then "Presbyterian Church of America" as it had existed up until that time represented a "false start."

In order to accomplish the result originally intended, to which they had been bound by most solemn promises and by their loyalty to the truth of God, they felt required to unite themselves in a testimony which would be Scriptural and which further would not offend the consciences of American Christians by viewing with approval practices which the Holy Spirit had led American churches in the past emphatically to reject. The men who had worked together until that time in the then Presbyterian Church of America parted from their brethren who felt differently, not in anger,

They desired only God's providential leading and to lay the foundation for His work in the future with a prayerful dependence upon His grace.

but in the profound conviction that they could not remain in that fellowship and expect the full blessing of God upon their labours.

The founders of the Bible Presbyterian Synod blew no trumpets and beat no drums. They desired only God's providential leading and to lay the foundation for His work in the future with a prayerful dependence upon His grace. Without much to go on in the way of material resources, quiet groundwork was laid between June, 1937, and September, 1938, when the Bible Presbyterian Synod met in the Bible Presbyterian Church of Collingswood, New Jersey. There, after thorough consideration and much prayer, the Synod adopted a Confession of Faith, Larger and Shorter Catechism, a Form of Government, and provisionally, a Book of Discipline. Concurrently, the Synod resolved itself into "The First General Synod" of the Bible Presbyterian Church. It erected presbyteries and took other steps for the promotion of the cause of the Gospel as God should send the means."

(The Confession of Faith, Larger and Shorter Catechism, Form of Government and Book of Discipline of the Bible Presbyterian Church, USA was adopted by the Bible-Presbyterian Church of Singapore since the day of its inception, though it has its own constitution adapted to certain requirements of the Singapore Government) ❖



LISTEN TO A SERMON for the DAY

Going to work? Returning home? Perhaps you are on a bus, on the train, in a taxi or driving.

Why not listen to a sermon a day?

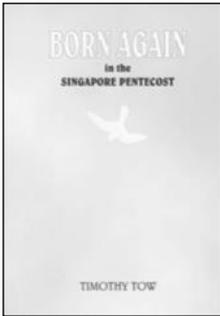


Subscribe to the t.me/Sermon4Day telegram channel and receive a link to listen to each day's sermon on the day itself.

Biography

He being dead yet speaketh

Source



[Born Again in the Singapore Pentecost](#)

Timothy Tow
Far Eastern Bible College Press



“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”

Hebrews 11:4

Armchair Christianity is pervasive around Christendom today. Everyone wants to be called or become a Christian, because being a Christian seems to confer some form of respectability and nobility in a man’s character — like in the days of Constantine the Great during his reign of the mighty Roman Empire.

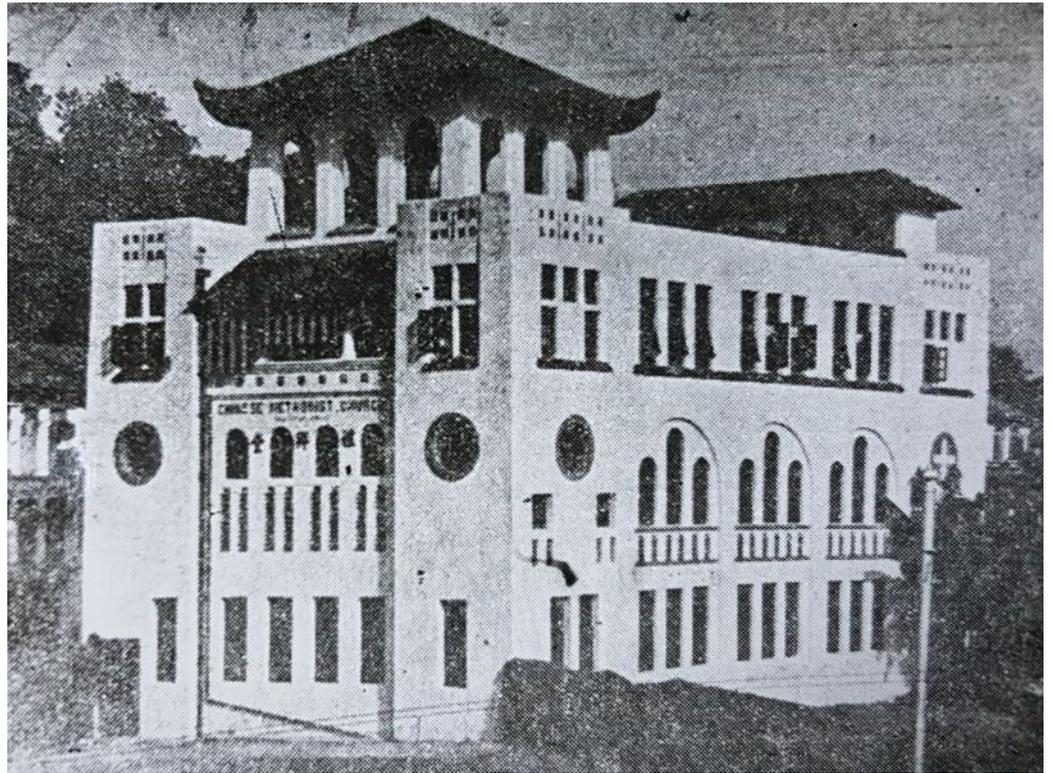
It is easy not to object that God is good and that honesty is the best policy. It makes one appear devout, religious, and honest. Furthermore, any objection to these general and generically wholesome statements may put one in bad light.

Many nowadays are also quick to admit that ‘nobody is perfect’, and ‘we are all trying’. This gives a veneer of humility, provides fodder to draw attention away from their imperfections, and serves as a convenient excuse for all their faults and shortcomings.

There are also increasing numbers who do not object to Jesus Christ as being referred to as God or God’s Son. This is evidenced by the growth of professing Christians (including Roman Catholics) — there is reported to be more than 2.2 billion Christians in 2010 compared to 600 million in 1910 (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_population_growth).

However, although there is no objection, there is also no evidence of such a belief. There seems to be belief in everything about Christ, about the Bible, and all her doctrines. Perhaps there are many eloquent discourses, and big talk, and religious discussions about the Bible — but nothing to show for in their lives.

There is no repentance, no transformation, and perhaps no regeneration. This is the scourge of Easy-Believism — a fruit of modernism and compromise in Christianity today.



Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church, Methodist Church in Singapore Archive and History Library

**The Gospel of
Jesus Christ in
the Bible is
the power of
God unto sal-
vation.**

The Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Bible is the power of God unto salvation. It has the power to recreate a new creature — for old things are passed away and all things are become new. (2 Cor 5:17) Old sinful habits are renounced, and with that comes new spiritual and heavenly desires such as Bible-reading, prayer, worship, and praise! It is a powerful Gospel that saves souls and changes lives!

Read about the work of God in salvation from the pen of a young China-born boy, Timothy Tow, who sailed to Malaysia and was brought to Singapore to hear God's salvation call through the ministry of His Word by John Sung.

“Racing upstairs to the main auditorium of the four-storey church complex which was solidly packed with young people, even overflowing into the aisles, our attention was immediately arrested by the doctor-preacher. Attired in a light white Chinese gown rarely seen in Singapore, with a shock of black hair flapping his high forehead, he was jabbing away in American English at the youthful audience in a hoarse voice, “You ought to die, to die!...” The strange looking evangelist was charging away from one end of the pulpit to the other as he preached from Abraham’s pleading with God before fire came down on Sodom and Gomorrhah. Was Singapore a better city than Sodom? Was Singapore holier than Gomorrhah? Were

“You ought to die, to die ... You cannot wash away your sins. But Jesus can. He died for you on the cross to pay for your sins.”

there to be found in Singapore ten righteous persons? Not a single one of us could stand before a holy, just and angry God! As the preacher thundered God's message with lightning effect upon a wicked city, the walls of resistance began to crumble.

When the invitation was solemnly given at the close of the message, a goodly number of boy and girl students capitulated. As one by one surrendered themselves to the Lord by going to the front, the preacher led them to confess their sins, item by item. “Do you worship idols? Have you disobeyed your parents? Have you stolen anything from your friends? Have you cheated in class? Do you go to the cinema? Have you done bad things in secret? Have you told lies? Do you play mahjong? Do you smoke? Do you gamble? Have you borrowed books without intention of returning them and they are now on your shelves? This is theft!....You ought to die, to die.....You cannot wash away your sins. But Jesus can. He died for you on the cross to pay for your sins. For you! For you!” Many a sob was heard as warm tears fell thick and fast, to the strain of:

Coming home, coming home. Never more to roam.

Open wide Thine arms of love, Lord, I'm coming home.

As for me and younger brother Siang Yew, however, we joined the remaining silent crowd on tip-toe out of the Church hall. “How dreadful is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven” (Gen 28:17)

When the next service resumed after lunch, Dr. Sung led us, waving a white handkerchief (for he was his own song leader), in the chorus, “Ye must be born again! Ye must be born again! I verily, verily, say unto you, Ye must be born again!” This was so new to us! Like Nicodemus this was the first time I ever heard about being “born again”. Expounding the story of his encounter with Jesus in John 3 verse by verse, Dr. Sung pointed his finger at me “Are you born again? If not, you can never go to heaven! Do you have the new life of Jesus in you? If not, you are bound for hell!”

Every word the preacher had said this time pierced my trembling heart. But Satan, who did his level best to keep me away from Christ, beguiled me with all kinds of sweet excuses, “But you are a Christian boy all your life,” he whispered. “You were baptized at birth, and now you're taking the Lord's Supper. You are a regular Church-goer, and you attend Sunday School. Your Grandpa is a minister. Your mother gave you to the Lord...”

Praise the Lord, at whatever Satan whispered into my ear, there came the Holy Spirit's rebuttal, loud and clear, through every quickened



Dr. John Sung preaching at Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church with Ms Leona Wu interpreting, Methodist Church in Singapore Archive and History Library

“Are you born again? If not, you can never go to heaven! Do you have the new life of Jesus in you? If not, you are bound for hell!”

heart-throb: “But, you are not born again! But you are not born again! But you are not born again...” Though crestfallen from my high self-esteem and pride of a strict religious upbringing, realizing for the first time I could not save myself by my good deeds which I had tried to do always, I nevertheless stiffened against raising my hand to the preacher’s call. As I struggled within, I caught a glimpse of younger brother Siang Yew’s hand going up. While the struggle raged there came a nudge suddenly from his side. This shot my hand right up, as by an electric shock! As my hand went up, my sin-burden rolled down! I saw myself kneeling with Pilgrim at the foot of the cross, released forever from the sin-burden.

*Rolled away, rolled away,
I am happy since my burden rolled away;
Rolled away, rolled away,
I am happy since my burden rolled away.*

“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile” (Ps 32:1-2). O the joy of knowing that all my sins were now washed away by the precious blood of Christ! That spell of wonderment that grew into excitement, but abruptly deadened to a stony burden, now burst into sunshine flooding my soul!

**“Who wants
to be saved,
come right up
to the front!”
The earnest
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spared no ef-
fort to haul in
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gling soul.**

*O there's sunshine, a blessed sunshine,
When the peaceful happy moments roll;
When Jesus shows His smiling face,
There is sunshine in my soul....in my soul!*

Now I began to experience the thrilling joy of a soul born again, a soul set free. Now I began to sing with spirits lifted to heaven the new choruses of His wonderful saving grace.

Revival-time was sing-time, heart-warming sing-time, reverberating sing-time! Like Ezekiel in the spirit, our souls were lifted, as it were, to the outskirts of heaven.

*Hallelujahs fill the havens
For the saints have all come home
To Jerusalem, to Jerusalem!
Joyfully they shout Hosannas:
Come and crown Him King of kings
In the New Jerusalem, Jer-u-salem...*

As I look back to that glorious noon-day when Jesus washed my sins away, there must have been forty to fifty of us who went up to the pulpit. Assisting Dr. Sung was the chubby Rev Chew Hock Hin of Paya Lebar Methodist Church. I can still hear him calling earnestly with outstretched hand in English, while Dr. Sung pleaded in Mandarin, and Miss Wu interpreted into Hokkien, “Who wants to be saved, come right up to the front! Who wants to be saved, come right up to the front!” The earnest evangelists spared no effort to haul in every struggling soul.

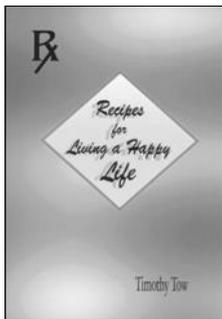


Rev. Chew Hock Hin

Now that we were born again by the washing of regeneration of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5) a wonderful surge of new life was felt in our innermost being. “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God” (Rom 8:16). That surge of new life soon burst upon our lips in a spontaneous cry of “Abba, Father”, when the evangelist called us to pray. Hitherto, whenever I prayed, it was the perfunctory repeating of a few stock phrases or the mechanical saying of the Lord’s Prayer. To pray to a Heavenly Father with tender filial feeling and with assurance of loving acceptance was something quite unknown before this day. I felt like a long lost orphan found by his real father.” ❖

Walk with Wise Men

Source



[Recipes for Living a Happy Life](#)

Timothy Tow
Far Eastern Bible College Press



“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise...”

Proverbs 13:20a

Everyone has to work. As men, we are to work to provide for ourselves and our family. Even Adam had work to do when he was placed in charge to tend to God’s creation.

Work is good because it keeps us away from sin. However, work is also hard after Adam fell because of sin. God had cursed the ground, and we are to labour in the ‘sweat on thy (our) face’ to keep body and soul together. Sometimes, we forget the reason for the hard work we have to endure in this life and that work is good for us.

In the context of today’s work for most Singaporeans which takes place on cushioned armchairs in air-conditioned offices, the mental strain far outweighs the physical toil. But it is certainly no less demanding. Regardless of the nature of labour, man is prone to be disgruntled and murmur because of the hard work required of us.

Naturally, man tries to minimize the toil. He wants to maximise profit at all costs in order to minimize his pain and labour. Hence, he looks for all manner of ingenious ways to increase efficiency.

As man becomes increasingly efficient with the advent and progress of technology in almost every sphere, a ‘profit at all cost’ mentality insidiously creeps in. It has to be worth *my* energy and *my* time. It has to be worth it. If the returns — invariably always in dollars and cents packaged in one of the “P”s (Pay, Prospects, Promotion and Prestige) — are not worth it, it is not worth my effort and labour.

Therefore, jobs that dangle good pay and seemingly bright prospects, have mapped out fast-tracked career advancements and promotion, or provide opportunities to be counted amongst the prestig-

ious aristocratic elite few of society — these jobs always seem to make all the toil and labour that a man invests suddenly worth it all.



Some love money, some love power, some love being on the pedestal, some love being part of the privileged few. Name your price — the Devil is ready to make an offer! He lures the unsuspecting prey into his trap and ensnares the foolish man, and invariably and inevitably his family too.

**“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”
(Mark 8:36-37)**

The Lord Jesus Christ has forewarned, *“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Mark 8:36-37)

Many men are said to be “married to their jobs” when we are supposed to be only married to our wives. Perhaps, some may love and know their jobs better than their wives! Jobs can break families. Sometimes, it may all start with a seemingly all-important or lucrative work trip, perhaps even one with a high and noble intention to advance society or help mankind.

I know of a man who returned from Boston after 4 years. He was received by his wife and young son — who welcomed him with “Hello uncle!” This man is today extremely successful and sits in the top echelon of a government ministry. It was a price he was willing to pay.

The majority may decry this man’s choice in life because we never yearn to be top or even amongst the top. But we secretly want to live our own lives the way we like. We work in order to maintain our own lifestyle. It always seems like there is never enough money. There appears to be a perpetual insufficiency for our consumption, much less for offering and tithing. We are always finding ways to hedge against inflation, and hunting out the best investment plans, lowest interest loans, etc., in order to feed our insatiable, carnal appetites.

The simple biblical explanation and reason for inflation we see around us is greed.

Is it any wonder Christian devotion, worship, and service is lacklustre? For the world has consumed and ensnared the Christian men through their jobs. How do we choose the right jobs and use them for the glory of God?

Rev. Tow offers counsel from God's Word in a message preached at the Life B-P Church camp at Genting in 1993 titled "TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT JOB AND USE IT FOR THE GLORY OF GOD "

Now, in the case of man what is his livelihood? Because of sin God will raise up thorns and thistles. There will be many, many obstacles to making a living. By the sweat of the brow, by very hard work, can you get food to eat. So today, whether it be in Singapore where circumstances are good and we say we are in prosperity, or in places less fortunate, it's the same thing. You've got to strive very hard to make a living.

Your span of life is 70 years. In the earlier days they lived several hundred years, but after the flood it was reduced to 70, and if you are strong, 80. That was what Moses wrote. Although he lived up to 120, the normal span of life was and is 70 to 80 years. All that you have throughout your life is labour and sorrow. Just like the Chinese saying, it's birth and old age, sickness and death. Finally, when you die, you will be put back to earth. You are made

from earth, to earth you go back. Insofar as the Bible is concerned there is no such teaching as cremation. The Jews when they die they bury them. But in the Holy Land they have a lot of caves so they put them into the caves. The Muslims when they bury they really make your body touch the raw earth. Our livelihood throughout the years is one of sorrow.

So now we start off from kindergarten. I hear that even kindergarten children today have tuition classes. Right through primary, second-



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Coolies. The Chinese term 苦力 (or 咕喱 in Cantonese) literally means “bitter strength”. Coincidentally, *Kuli* also means “hire” in Tamil.

Life is getting harder and harder, so that it fulfills what the Bible has already said, “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread” (Genesis 3:19).

ary, O Level, A Level, you have to struggle. When I started to go to school, the first thing my mother said to me was, “You must study hard. If you don’t study hard, you will be a coolie.” The word “coolie” is not very much used today, but what is the meaning of “coolie”? It is “bitter strength” in Chinese characters, you’ve got to exert it. (The dictionary definition of “coolie” is “a European’s name for a hired native labourer in India and China.”) I did study somewhat. By the grace of God I managed to pass without much difficulty in those days. When I look at our young people today, I sometimes feel sorry for them. I hear that mothers are studying for their children, and almost take their exams for them. Life is getting harder and harder, so that it fulfills what the Bible has already said, “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread” (Genesis 3:19).

Well, what is our Singapore government doing? They are trying their level best to give a good livelihood to Singaporeans. But it seems that they are pressurising us harder and harder. More training, more productivity, and more going abroad. The whole nation is caught up with this rat race. But what does the Bible say? It is true you may make more

We are trying to get a good job and earn a living to take care of our family. But we must do it according to the teaching of God's Word.

money by going to China. It is true that if you have more risks in business you make more profit. But God, the most important factor, is left out.

So in the choosing of a career, insofar as we are concerned, we have a secret that the world does not know. Now that we are become children of God, as we come out from among them, He will be a father to us. We have a God to help us. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). Jesus says, "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). We are trying to get a good job and earn a living to take care of our family. But we must do it according to the teaching of God's Word. In other words, we must conform to His law, we must be diligent. "If any would not work, neither should he eat" (II Thessalonians 3:10). We must not only work hard, we must be honest. So here comes the test. After Jesus was in the desert for 40 days and 40 nights without eating, then Satan came along to tempt Him, "If you are the Son of God, you can turn the stone into bread. You can eat and be filled."

Many are caught by Satan's snare. They think, "If I cut some corners, I will make the money." Very soon, their names appear in the newspapers for insider trading, for example. Very shameful.

In 1 Timothy 6 there is a wonderful teaching for us, from verse 6 to verse 10. Many people who quote the Bible will mumble, "Money is the root of all evil." They quote the Bible but they misquote. They say "Money is the root of all evil," but the Bible says, "The love of money is the root of all evil". You are rich enough and you want to be richer, that is the love of money. I know of a young lady who sold her house for \$400,000, and went to buy shares which she thought could make her rich overnight. Suddenly the price dropped. She lost about \$30,000. "I hope that it will go up." But the more she wished that it would go up, the more it went down. Finally she got just about 25 per cent of what she had speculated.



The Bible tells us clearly, "For the love of money is the root of evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." As far as Christians are concerned, I would urge, though you can get your CPF to go

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this job I can
earn an honest
living and the
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bad, and I can
also have time
to serve God,
that will be the
job for me.**

into certain investments, you must pray hard and study hard. Do not speculate and lose everything. The Bible says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." You have the spiritual blessing first. All these things that are of our normal daily livelihood will be added even more. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Now, let us start off by taking the case of one who has graduated from university or polytechnic. Or even if you had not had the chance of going to the higher schools of learning and you just have an O Level. Now you have gone out to work. You must not take any work because it pays better, but requires you to do things that are not right. We had a student in FEBC from Korea. He is now a famous professor in Korea. He is also a well-known pastor in the university. He had a degree in accountancy. But in his job he had to keep two sets of accounts. He felt very miserable. "I cannot take on this job because I'm cheating the government every day." Finally, the Lord called him. "I'd rather work for the Lord." So he came to FEBC, graduated, went to America and got higher degrees. Because he seeks the kingdom of God and righteousness, he is promoted to chief chaplain of the university.

There is another young man, he said to me, "I was given this job; it pays so much better. But I got another job, lesser pay, but I can take off on Sunday." He'd rather take on this job that gave him the freedom of worship on the Lord's Day. The Lord promoted him to a better pay than the first one. I would therefore advise when we are looking for a job, make this your guiding principle. Is it putting God first? In this job, are we going to glorify God? The title of my message is to choose the right career and use it to the glory of God. This is a wonderful principle. What is the chief end of man? What is the chief purpose of life? The answer is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. Whatever I do, it's God first. If you hold to this principle you will never go wrong.

Any job that you choose, must be appropriate. Calvin has a right formula. How many talents did God give you? If God has given you one talent, you do the one-talent job; two talents, then do the two-talent job. Don't try to jump to the five talent job and break your leg. Be very contented. As long as in this job I can earn an honest living and the pay is not too bad, and I can also have time to serve God, that will be the job for me. Because when you put God first, God will put you first. And when you put him first, He will give you many things that money cannot buy. They are long life, health, strength, happiness, a good family, and obedient children. Conversely, there's a Chinese saying, "You may have a rich man's money, but live a leper's life." What is the use? So it is important to be contented in

So when God begins to bless us in our job, we must remember Him to return the one-tenth, which is our worship.

the Lord Jesus Christ. "Godliness with contentment is great gain." (I Timothy 6:6).

As the Lord helps us we begin to be more relaxed. Before we were very poor, now we are well-off. Proverbs 3 gives us the principle that we can never break. In verses 7 and 8, it says: "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones." When we trust the Lord and keep away from evil, God gives us good health and strength. Then verses 9 and 10: "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." When God has helped us to get a job, remember also that verse in Deuteronomy, it is God who gives us the strength to get wealth. Then remember the source that we must return to worship him. In the Bible it is very clear, one-tenth of our income belongs to Him. Do we keep other laws but in the matter of giving the one-tenth, we slacken? It has been said that when we were earning small pay, we gave tithe, but when we make big money we grip it tight.

Here's the story of Colgate. Colgate got \$10 from his mother and went out to sell small things like a hawker. When he came back he made \$2. He gave 20 cents to the Lord, one-tenth. Then he got a little bit more money, he went trading again. Oh, he made \$50, so he gave \$5 to the Lord. Now the Lord blessed him because he knew how to honour the Lord from the beginning. Not only God will bless you, men will also bless you because they see that you love God. He became so rich, he gave 30 per cent, 40 per cent. He got so much money he couldn't use it all. The Lord says "God loveth a cheerful giver and God is able to make all grace to abound toward you, that ye always having all sufficiency, may abound to every good work" (II Corinthians 9:7,8).

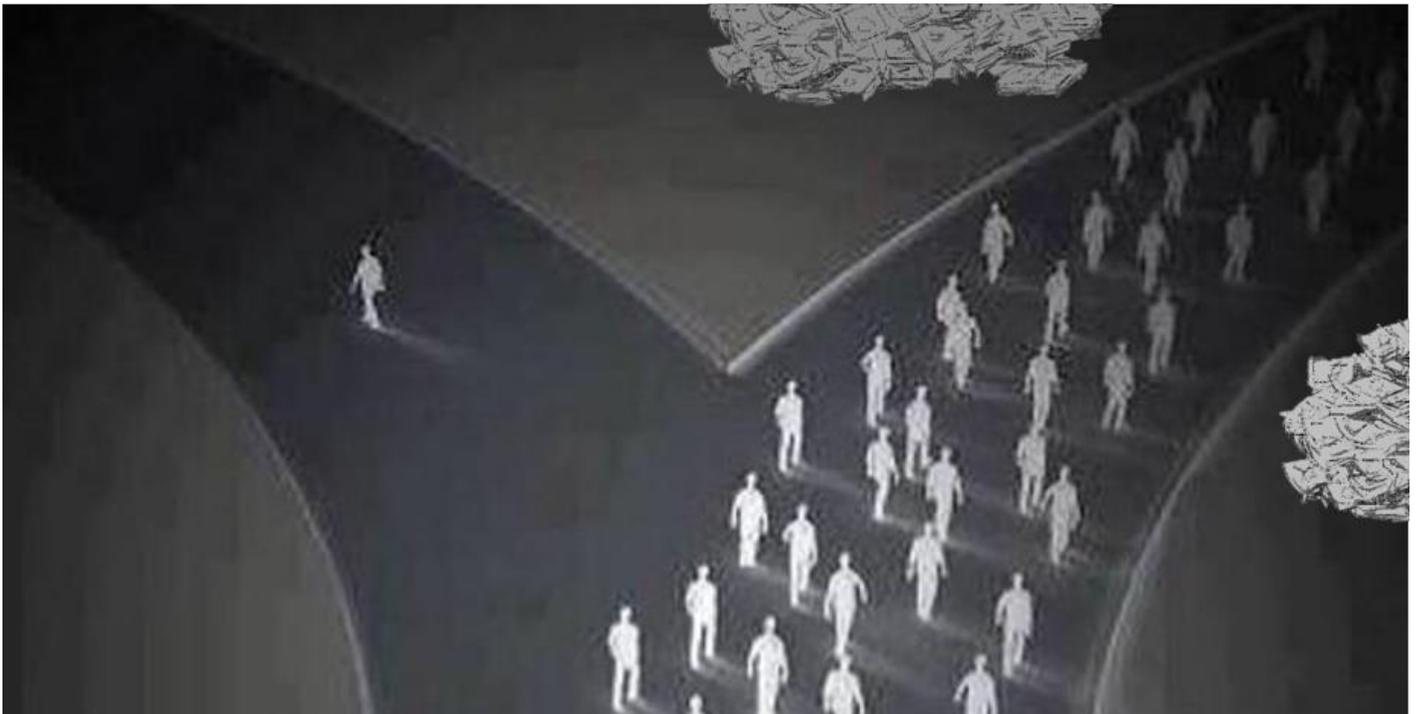
Learn a lesson from the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee is a freshwater lake, and you've got the upper River Jordan that brings the water from the snow mountains into the "sea". Now this River Jordan is not big and you cross it with a small bridge. But before you cross the bridge and after you cross the bridge, you see there are many streams from other places also flowing into the "sea", so that Galilee is always full, because God says, I'll make all blessings to come to you through other channels. Galilee is always full of fresh water and rich with fish, because it gives what she freely receives.

But the Dead Sea is the opposite. It is 1,300 feet below sea level. It can only receive, it doesn't give out. It is the picture of a miser — all in but nothing goes out. So when God begins to bless us in our job, we must remember Him to return the one-tenth, which is our worship. That's not income tax because God doesn't have an officer to check up on you. If you

**But when you
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He will reward
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don't give one-tenth, the church doesn't bother either. It's between you and your God. But when you give anonymously and you give not because you have to but because you love Him... He will reward you openly. I know there are those who give not only one-tenth, they give two-tenths and even more. In times of emergency they even borrow money to give to the church. When we built Life Church at Gilstead Road, there were many times of need. I knew one elder who sold his car, \$1,200 — that was 30-odd years ago. He had no money but he said, I will sell my car and give to the church \$600; the other \$600 is a loan. After two months, he said to me, "Pastor, I've got a double promotion." The other half, \$600, he now converted to a gift. Another young man was so exercised about the church's need, he borrowed \$10,000 from the bank and gave it to the church. The Lord gave it back to him and more.

Our contractor was very surprised. We built the church at Gilstead Road in 15 months, at high speed. We paid him always on time. One day he said to me, "Pastor, I see that the God of your church is greater than the God of other churches." I said, "That's right, that's right. Our God is a fundamentalist God." The others he mentioned are modernist. You know what they do? Garage sales, concerts, fun fairs, food fairs. They sell T-shirts, and they make achar-achar (Malayan pickles) to sell for a paltry sum. When we were building Woodlands, one sympathetic BP pastor proposed to hold a concert in order to make \$25,000 to help us. Our project was \$3 million but he could give us only \$25,000. What's the help? I replied: "Please don't hold any concert for us. The Bible says only the tithe. And the Bible says love offering, freewill offering, all in worship." If



When we choose a job, remember it should glorify God. Smaller pay? Never mind, but I have good opportunity to serve the Lord.

you hold a concert and people give \$15 for a ticket, after giving they will say, "All right, we have already given." That will cause our building fund to stop. Praise the Lord, we did not hold the concert.

When we choose a job, remember it should glorify God. Smaller pay? Never mind, but I have good opportunity to serve the Lord. But now the Lord wants us perhaps to even leave our job for a higher one. He said to the disciples: "Follow me, I will make you fishers of men." I thank God, had I served myself, if I went into law and politics, I would have been retired long, long ago. But at the present moment, I'm revising my scale about life. I used to say that life began at 60. Now I say life begins at 70. You see, the Lord gives you the joy when you serve Him. You may be old in age but young in years.

Perhaps the Lord is speaking to some young person tonight, like He spoke to the rich young ruler. Well, there may be some young man with a good job here, or young lady. It is not too much for the Lord to tell you: "Give it up and come and serve me. And until you give up you will never have peace."

Finally, there are those who have reached middle-age or retiring age. At such a time, you might like to change jobs. The best job for a change is to serve the Lord. Some of us here go on mission trips. That may be the way that leads you to serve the Lord full-time, even in your middle age. Old or young, livelihood is man's first physical need. But we must consider what it is that will glorify God. The Lord will bless you and increase you as you go along. "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). ❖



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