

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 26 September 2021

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Psalm 92

"THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL FLOURISH"

AN UPLIFTING PSALM

Psalm 92 is a wonderfully uplifting Psalm to read. Here is an exciting segment.

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

¹³ Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ They shall still bear fruit in old age;
They shall be fresh and flourishing,

¹⁵ To declare that the LORD is upright;
He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Psalm 92:12-15

1. A wonderful set of promises

a) This is with reference to the Righteous

b) They seek to live for the Lord consciously

2. Comparisons

a) They are compared to the stately Palm Tree

b) They are also compared to the majestic Cedar Tree

3. Even if these Trees become much older

a) They will be Flourishing

b) They will be Fruitful

c) They will be Fresh

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

We often associate old age with things that diminish in value or significance. This is a very different perspective!

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

1. Special features to be noted:

- a) They are planted in the house of the Lord
- b) They are found in the courts of the Lord

2. This is a description of the Righteous

- a) They love to be in God's house
- b) They are in close touch with the Lord
- c) They are blessed wonderfully!

A SPECIAL TASK OF THE RIGHTEOUS

The Psalmist identifies himself with the righteous:

- 1. He will declare that God is upright
- 2. That He is the Rock
- 3. That there is no unrighteousness in Him

Let us bear witness for the Lord faithfully and joyfully always!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be encouraged and uplifted!



CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Alvin and Shirley, Joseph and Grace, on the passing away of Alvin's father on 17 September 2021. The late Mr. Alan Lim Kian Huat was 87 years old.

LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

1

"I deeply appreciate the love, you and the brethren at Bethany gave to me and my family in our time of bereavement. Bethany is truly a family, where people will sacrifice precious time for others. A family that manifested God's Word. It's a blessing from God to see this precious fruit from 48 years of labour."

With warmest regard,
Albert Ng

2

Dear Pastor Charlie, Pastoral Team, Session Members and all Brethren at Bethany,

On behalf of my mum and family, we want to express our gratitude and thanks to all who came to support us in our time of grief when my dad passed away on 17 Sept 2021.

We thank God for the tremendous outpouring of love and support we received from Bethany. We received so many messages of love, support and offers to help. Many also turned up at the wake physically to express their condolences.

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Meals throughout the period of the wake were also graciously provided. As dad's wake was held at an open HDB pavilion, God provided a team of 4 wonderful ladies who did vigil overnight so that the family could get some sleep.

The AVA team were also present to provide sound system and 'live' streaming facilities.

Bethany is truly God's kind of church, where God is touching lives, and people care for people. Our hearts are indeed full!

With thanksgiving,
Junia, Janice, Alvin, Shirley, Arnold, Jenny, Joseph, Grace and Aaron

ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS

*⁵For He established a testimony in Jacob,
And appointed a law in Israel,
Which He commanded our fathers,
That they should make them known to their children;
⁶That the generation to come might know them,
The children who would be born,
That they may arise and declare them to their children,
Psalm 78:5-6*

WHAT GOD HAS ESTABLISHED

1. This is a special command of God
 - a) It can be called a "Testimony"
 - b) Another term is "Law"

2. What was this Commandment of God
 - a) That we should pass on our knowledge of God to the next generation
 - b) Then the next generation can pass it on the generation that comes after them

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 26 September 2021

Text: John 14:27 Peace I leave with you

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

1. The Peace promised
 - a) It is not a worldly kind of peace
 - b) It is a peace that is especially given by the Lord Jesus
2. The Effects of this Peace
 - a) The heart need not be troubled
 - b) It does not need to be afraid of anything

NEXT SUNDAY: 03 October 2021

Text: Ephesians 4:2 With longsuffering

*With all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering,
bearing with one another in love*

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:93-94

*⁹³I will never forget Your precepts,
For by them You have given me life.*

*⁹⁴I am Yours, save me;
For I have sought Your precepts.*

THE PRECEPTS OF GOD

1. They are truly life-giving
2. They must not be forgotten

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE

1. We may pray for deliverance
2. Because we are the Lord's!

POETRY CORNER

1

THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL FLOURISH

What a special word of promise given;
This is a word of great encouragement.
How wonderful to be Fruitful for God;
Few things give joy of their own accord.

Many fear that in old age we are less fruitful;
Or worse, that we become totally unfruitful!
But these are fears that we can set aside;
The Lord Himself will draw alongside.

The promise is to the truly Righteous;
The blessings of God would be obvious.
The Righteous can be Fresh and Flourishing;
These are wonderful and uplifting blessings!

The Righteous love being planted in God's House;
To the Lord and all He stands for, they are espoused.
How wonderful to know that we can be fruitful Trees;
Let the Declaration of God's uprightness never cease!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 92:12-15

POETRY CORNER

2

Peace

Since time immemorial has man yearned for peace;
Kings and princes had exacted this through rule with an iron fist.
Yet what man craves is peace in his heart and mind, not least;
That which only God can give His children, to appease.

We live in a world where trials abound and tribulations never cease;
Economic hardship, health challenges and relationship problems all make the list.
Then our own sin of covetousness acts to disrupt our peace;
For our souls invariably erupt in turmoil once driven by avarice!

The Lord Jesus had spoken about many things and left these as His gift;
He reiterated that in Him, we may have peace.
Yet, many go through life as though peace has gone amiss;
Worrying about tomorrow instead of cherishing the present bliss.

For those riled up by sin or the enemy's mischief;
And those tormented by pain and suffering from disease.
May we learn to abide by God's love and in His word, find reprieve;
May we experience the calm which surpasses all understanding, which is God's peace.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: John 16:33; Jeremiah 6:13; Philippians 4:6-7

POETRY CORNER

3

Peace

As sure as the sun rises each morning we will experience life's difficulties
These sorrowful times are deeply rooted in our minds as we struggle
However in Jesus we will be able to find peace
For He has overcome the world which is full of trouble

Through His death Jesus satisfied God's wrath for our sins
Reconciled sinners with the Lord Almighty and believers are at peace with God
May the God of Peace reign in our hearts through Jesus
This divine peace is sustainable only by the Lord

Why do we forgo our personal peace with incessant worry
Needlessly concerning placing food on the table and our desire in life to get ahead?
Put on our best effort and then let the Lord take over completely
The birds of the air neither sow nor reap and yet are well fed

Seek the Holy Spirit for the tranquility that the fruit of peace provides
Life can be calm and blissful in the midst of storms
Tribulations will be plentiful but if we trust in Jesus
We will bear the fruit of peace that will take away our anxieties

Jessie Quek:

Inspiration: Inspiration: Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 6:34

POETRY CORNER

4

A Quiet Early Morning Reflection

Woke up in a shudder! The sleep troubled, enshrouded in emotion.
Eyes wide open, thoughts swirling. In the mind, a gentle commotion.

Must have been a trigger, a simple event yet a powerful catalyst,
To create a cascade of melancholy, deeply burying this protagonist.

But faith had kept him grounded, trust had brought on much comfort.
He pulls himself up early that morning, puts on his gear without effort.
Out into the morning mist he ventures to clear this troubling sadness.
Hoping to find an ounce of solace, rediscover that dose of gladness.

Upon the quiet steps, on that early morning, moonlight cloaks him,
And a cool gentle breeze whispers a morning calmness like a hymn.
A reminder of a love so deep that had been poured out into hearts,
A love that lifts the spirit to in turn bear fruit, seeking a fresh start.

On this quiet morning a renewed commitment, re-established clarity,
To grow in his faith, seek deeper trust, prayer with utmost sincerity.
For the Spirit to work in him to bear fruits of love, a genuine plea,
And in doing so find a certain fullness of joy and a measure of peace.

Dr. Tan Kok-Yang

Inspiration: Galatians 5:22-23 and messages from the Pulpit Theme of Sep 2021.

Written in an early morning of deep sadness.

Dedicated to those amongst our brethren who are missing a loved one.

POETRY CORNER

5

BE ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING

When we meet with bad circumstances,
We tend to feel worried and anxious.
Is it possible to “be anxious for nothing?”
Our part is to pray with thanksgiving.

We can learn to relate to God as our Father,
Our prayers are not in vain and they matter.
To Him, we may humbly present our requests,
Trusting that He hears and answers prayers.

God can help us battle the problem of worrying,
He gives peace that surpasses all understanding.
This special gift can guard us profoundly,
It protects the heart and mind soundly.

A strong mind, we must seek to cultivate,
On wholesome things, we must meditate.
If we practise these things with perseverance,
We will find God’s peace and His very presence!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Philippians 4:6-9

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“The Fruit of the Spirit: LONGSUFFERING ”

Text: Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

