

7 April 2019

LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605
www.lapcoc.org limahpincoc@gmail.com www.facebook.com/lapchurchofchrist

Worship Schedule

SUNDAY

9.30 am
Worship
(English)

11.15am
Bible Class
(English)

3.45pm
Bible Class
(Mandarin)

5.00pm
Worship
(Mandarin)

7.00pm
Worship
(English)

THURSDAY

7.45pm
Bible Class
(English/Mandarin)

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Elders

Bro Jimmy Lau
Bro Lee Tian Seng
Bro Michael Yeo

Deacons

Bro Benjamin Tan
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern

This has to be you!



Am I Standing In The Gap?

Date: 10th - 13th June (Mon - Thurs)

Venue: Berjaya Waterfront Hotel

Registration starts now!

Collection of fees starts 7th April

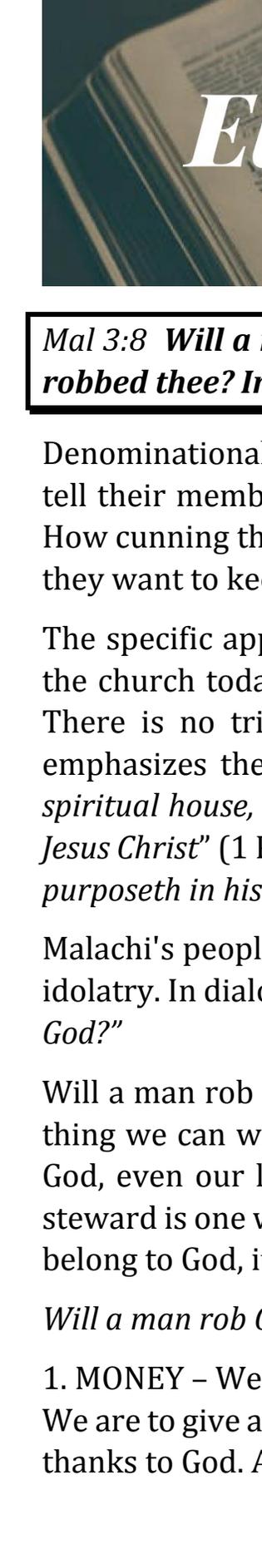
Fees:

\$200 (Adult-twin sharing), \$170 (child with bed), \$100 (child w/o bed)

*child - age 4-11

Payment mode: Cash/Cheque

Cheque payable to: Church of Christ, Lim Ah Pin Road A/C 1



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

Mal 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Denominational preachers certainly love this verse in Malachi 3:8. They are quick to tell their members: "Please pay your tithes." A tithe is ten percent of what you earn. How cunning they are! They don't want everything that was in the Old Testament; but they want to keep the tithes. It's covetousness.

The specific application of Malachi, however, concerning the tithe, does not apply to the church today. The tithe was paid specifically for the support of the tribe of Levi. There is no tribe of Levites today to accept a tithe. Instead, the New Testament emphasizes the priesthood of all believers: "*Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ*" (1 Peter 2:5). The important thing today is that "*every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity*" (2 Cor 9:7).

Malachi's people were guilty of offering unworthy, blemished sacrifices and following idolatry. In dialogue fashion, Malachi condemned his people. He asked: "*Will a man rob God?*"

Will a man rob God? The answer is a yes and most of the time! Money is not the only thing we can withhold from God. Have we forgotten that all that we have belongs to God, even our life? We are all simply stewards of the things God has given to us. A steward is one who manages the affairs of another. Hence, if we consider that all things belong to God, it's time we examine if we have been stealing from God's treasury.

Will a man rob God? Yes, and in all these things:

1. MONEY – We do not have tithing but we are still commanded to give (1 Cor 16:1-2). We are to give according to what God has prospered us. It is called gratitude. It is giving thanks to God. And what better way to express our thanksgiving than by giving.

2. POSSESSIONS – The first century Christians shared their possessions (Acts 2:45). They had fellowship in the things they had. How can we practice sharing of possessions? It is by using the material blessings that God has given you to glorify Him. For an example: God gave you a car; use your car to do good works. Or, God gave you a big house; use it to glorify: entertain guests and let foreign brethren stay over. Your good works glorify God (Matt 5:16). Those things belong to God and we are to manage them for His glory.

3. TIME – Every day, God gives us 86 400 seconds. How much of those 86 400 seconds are given back to Him? We rob God when we take them all for our own use and leave nothing for God. If we want to grow spiritually, we must spend time for it. We must set aside time to meditate on the word of God (Psa 1:2). We must devote time for prayers (Psa 55:17). We must devote time to serve Him (Gal 5:13).

4. TALENTS – Did you thank God for the talents He has given to you? Do you know that one day He will call you to give an account of the talents He has given to you? (Matt 25:19). How are you using the talents that God has given you? Some have become rich and successful as a result of their talents; but they are not serving God with their talents. They use the talents for self-glorification and not for God's.

How good it will be if the church building has some repairs to do and every member comes together and do what they can do to repair it. Those who know electrical stuff come together and repair the switches and wiring. Some repair the plaster on the walls. Some paint the walls. Some clean up the toilets. Some repair the chairs, tables and cabinets. Each man and woman did what they could of the talents that were given to them. We rob God when we withhold our talents to serve Him.

There are many areas in the church that you can help. The Church Bulletin needs writers; can you write? The church needs teachers to teach visitors; are you a teacher? The library needs maintenance; are you a good organiser? The building needs regular maintenance; are you a handyman?

Will a man rob God? Yes, certainly! We rob God when we withhold our money, possession, time and talents to serve our own benefits and not God's benefits.

Let us seek to glorify God for all the things that He has given to us. Let us give unto the Lord for all the benefits He has bestowed on us. "*Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength*" (Psa 29:1).



Preacher's exhortation

The Sinner and the Saint

By bro Ernest Lau

In the text of Luke 7:36-48, we read of the account where Jesus was invited by Simon the Pharisee for a meal. During the meal, a woman came to wash Jesus' feet with her tears and hair. Simon looked at the woman with disdain, for she was a well-known sinner, and wondered why Jesus allowed her to touch Him. Are there times when we looked down on others because of their appearance and background? Often, we make the same judgments as Simon did. However, Jesus would go on to teach Simon some important lessons from this encounter.

1. Contempt

Simon, as with the other Pharisees, often looked down upon those whom they labelled as sinners of society, and avoided them (cf. Luke 15:2; Matthew 9:11). However, Jesus would not avoid them, but even ate together with them. Of course, Jesus was not indulging in sin together with them, but He explains His reason: "*They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick... I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance*" (Matthew 9:12-13). Jesus wanted to heal them of their sinful ways, and He could not do so if He avoided them! Jesus taught Simon that he should not have contempt upon "sinners," but should rather seek to save them.

Do we look down on those who appear to be staunch sinners? Certainly, we do not want to enjoy company with bad influence (1 Corinthians 15:33). However, neither do we want to deprive sinners of the chance to be saved. We need to remember that we ourselves had been sinners before, but we were granted the opportunity to be saved (cf. Romans 3:23). Jesus died to give all men an opportunity to be saved; we ought therefore to give others a second chance also to be saved (Romans 5:8).

2. Gratitude

Jesus goes on to give Simon a parable about two debtors. One debtor owed a creditor 500 pence and the other owed 50 pence (\$100 vs \$10). Both were forgiven of their debts. Which debtor would love the creditor more? Simon answered: the one who owed more. It is true that the larger favour we received, the more we would be grateful! Jesus turned the parable over to Simon: Simon, who supposedly sinned less than the woman, showed that he was less grateful to Jesus. While the woman washed Jesus' feet, kissed His feet, and anointed His feet with ointment, Simon did none of those.

Are we grateful to Jesus? We ought to be, because Jesus had forgiven us of a debt as well: a debt of sin! (Romans 6:23). It was a debt that we could never pay through our own efforts, but only with the ultimate sacrifice, which Jesus paid with His own body (Romans 5:8). Therefore, as the apostle John aptly put it, "*we love him, because he first loved us*" (1 John 4:19). If we are grateful to God, we must not be as Simon who did nothing for Jesus. Rather, we must show it through action and humble obedience to His authority (Colossians 3:17).

3. Love

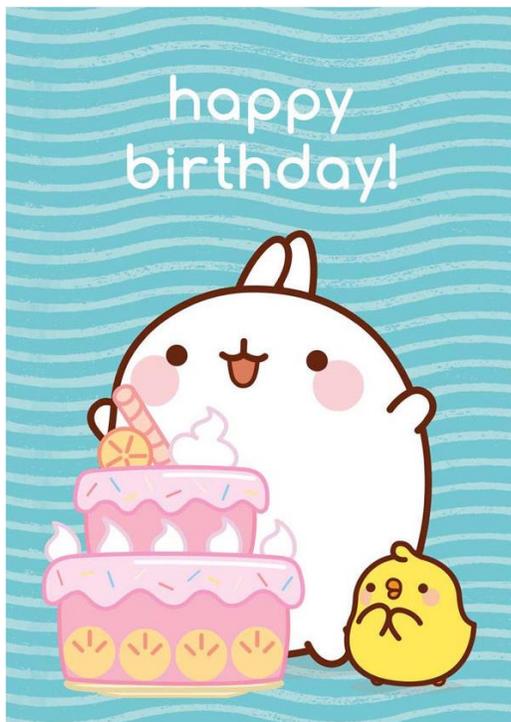
The woman displayed her love for Jesus in three actions. Firstly, she used her hair to wipe the feet of Jesus. Imagine how dirty the feet of Jesus would be after walking along those dusty roads in His sandals. The woman then uses her own hair to clean Jesus' dirty feet! I wonder how much shampoo she needed to use afterwards. However, this is a reminder that love demands sacrifice. Jesus Himself said: "*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me*" (Luke 9:23). To love Jesus means to put His will over our own. What are we willing to sacrifice for Jesus?

The woman also kissed the feet of Jesus. What a degrading action! We wouldn't want to touch our lips onto someone's dirty feet. Furthermore, to kiss someone's feet involves bending down in a prostrate manner, as a servant would before his master. This is a display of humility. Loving Jesus demands humble service. Jesus exhorts: "*If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet*" (John 13:14). Christians who love Jesus are ready to serve one another with an attitude of love and humility (Galatians 5:13). Are you ready to humble yourself to serve your brethren?

Lastly, the woman bought ointment to anoint Jesus' feet. Such ointment was usually meant for anointing the head, and provides fragrance to the hair. However, the woman used it on Jesus' feet. Would you use your facial cream for the rest of your body, and your feet? What a waste! But the woman did not think so. Because she loved Jesus, to

her, it was worth every cent. We are reminded of the widow who put in two mites into the temple treasury: she put in all her living! (Luke 21:2-4). What cost are we willing to pay for our Lord Jesus?

Comparing Simon and the woman: who is the sinner and who is the saint? We learn from Jesus that it is not about our appearance, or even our historical background. Hence, we have no right to look upon others with contempt. Rather, it is about what we do in the present: what are we doing to show our gratitude and love towards our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? That will determine if we are the sinner or the saint.



April			
4	Juek Tiang	13	Jerry Sau Ching
5	Hwee Chin Arthur	14	Henry Chee Jose Peter Chin
6	Ser Ern	15	Wenyu
9	Shuan Kwee	20	Jonallyn
10	Kok Leong	27	Jaslyn
11	Poh Teng	29	Susan Goh



Travelling (Pray for safety)

1. **Bro Benjamin Tan** in USA for work till 8 Apr
2. **Bro Gavin** in Japan till 13 Apr

Guests last week

1. Sis Pearl Jean (*Lavender COC*)
2. Sis Swee Teen (*sis Swee Inn's sister*)
3. Bro Eric Lim (*bro Poh Teng's brother*)
4. Iris (*sis Lois' friend*)
5. Kelvin Kuan (*sis Eunice's friend*)
6. Shalen (*sis Seow Hui's helper*)
7. Meyske (*sis Debbie's helper*)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

Health Seminar on Dementia (Mandarin)



Date & Time: 13 Apr, Sat @ 10am-12nn

Venue: LAP Main Hall

Please register with sis Eunice if you are interested to attend.

Area Cleaning



Date & Time: 13 Apr, Sat @ 1-3pm

Venue: LAP

More hands make light work!

Singing Fellowship

Date & Time:

14 Apr, Sun @ 1.30-3pm

Venue: LAP Main Hall

All are welcome! Come praise our God in song.

Ladies Fellowship (Tea & Time in God's Word)

Date & Time:

20 Apr, Sat @ 2pm - 3.30pm

Venue: LAP Main Hall

Please register with sis Eunice if you are interested to attend.

Senior Fellowship (2nd Anniversary Special)

Date & Time:

4 May, Sat @ 10am-12nn

Venue: LAP Main Hall

More details will be published next week.



Advance Care Planning:
Planning Ahead For You &
Your Loved Ones

Saturday 11 May 2019

10am-11.30am

20 Lim Ah Pin Road
Church of Christ
Singapore 547839

Living Matters

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Thursday Bible Class

"All Judgement is Given to Jesus" (John 5:19-30)

by bro Timothy Ng

Next Sunday Sermon

Moses:

The Reluctant Leader

by bro Benjamin Tan

Birthdays this week

9 Apr (Tue) – Shuan Kwee

10 Apr (Wed) – Kok Leong

11 Apr (Thu) – Poh Teng

13 Apr (Sat) –

Jerry & Sau Ching

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Please send any news & prayer requests to limahpincoc@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- **Bro Long Jun** in China
- **Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris** in San Francisco
- **Bro Jonathan & sis Joan, bro Siang Yee, sis Farah** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Kevin** in New York for studies

Health

- **Sis Suan Kiang's & sis Linda's** health
- **Bro Wee Sin's** recovery from surgery for his right shoulder tendon
- The health of **Justina** (*sister-in-law of sis Tuan Sang*)

Pregnancy

- Sis Christine (Apr'19), sis Mae (May'19), sis Deborah (Aug'19)

NSF

- Bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict, bro Titus, bro Shawn

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		7-Apr-19	14-Apr-19	21-Apr-19
Song Leader		Joel Lee	Amos Yang	Alvin Lin
Opening Prayer Leader		Charlie Teo	Paul Lim	Jerry Cheong
Preacher		Ernest Lau	Benjamin Tan	Alvin Lin
Lord's Supper Text		Isa 53:4-9	Php 2:5-11	1 Cor 11:23-29
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Zachary Ling	Cornelius Lee	Shawn Wong
	Prayer: Bread	Chua Kian Hong	Reuben Lim	Martyn Gostelow
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Henry Leow	Alvin Chan	Lau Jeng Sang
	Prayer: Offering	Alan Poon	Gordon Loo	Joel Lee
	Assistant	Ng Wei Jie	Jose Cardoza	Titus Goh
Foundation Class		David Sum	Yew Tian Geng	Benjamin Tan
Announcer		Lee Tian Seng	Alvin Lin	Benjamin Kwan
Greeters		Mary Ann Catalos Ellen Hernandez	Naomi Leow Christine Phang	Jonalyn Balagot Ludina Carrido
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Benedict Yo	Benjamin Kwan	Jeshua Lin
Speaker		Wong Sek Hoong	Alvin Chan	Jeremy Kwan
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Lim Poh Teng	Martyn Gostelow	Gavin Cheah
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm			11-Apr-19	18-Apr-19
Song Leader			Ernest Lau	Benjamin Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader			Danny Poo	Chua Kian Hong
Teacher			Timothy Ng	Timothy Ng
Closing Prayer Leader			Lee Tian Seng	Paul Lim