

2 JULY 2017

LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605
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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

Deacons

Bro Henry Leow
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

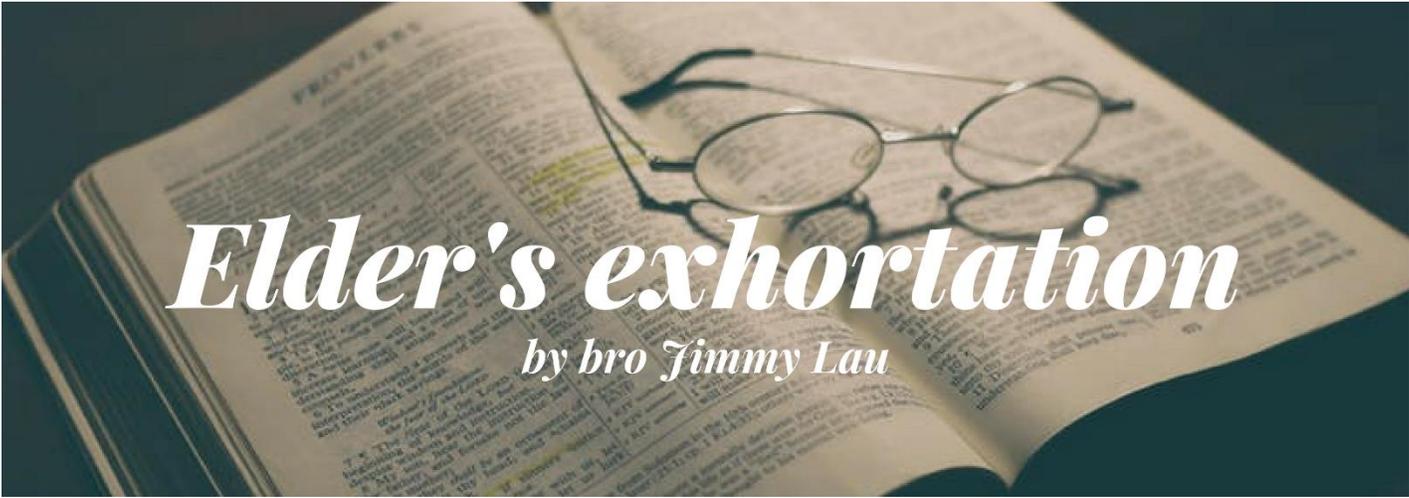
Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

Sis Goh Ser Ern



GOD SPEAKS TO THOSE WHO
TAKE TIME TO *listen*
AND HE LISTENS TO THOSE WHO
TAKE TIME TO *pray*



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

1Ki 16:31 And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

We have here the beginning of the reign of Ahab. The scripture describes his father as doing worse than all the kings that were before him (1 Kgs 16:25). Yet, Ahab exceeded his father in wickedness for the scripture says he did even worse than all the kings that were before him (1 Kgs 16:30). Indeed, Ahab exceeded all his predecessors in wickedness and his wicked deeds are well known and well recorded in the scripture more than any other kings of Israel.

He thought "*it a light thing to walk in the sins of Jeroboam.*" It means it wasn't to him a big deal what Jeroboam had done to Israel. Jeroboam put a shape and face to Jehovah. He professed to retain the worship of Jehovah, and to introduce only a small alteration by setting up a symbol of Him. Today, the Catholics are doing the same thing: that is, setting up a symbol to the worship of the true God; they put a face to Jesus. What Jeroboam did and what the Catholics are doing today are the same; to put a face to deity.

And the thing that Ahab did worse than Jeroboam was to marry Jezebel (1 Kgs 16:31). How could a marriage be worse than the two golden calves?

Jezebel's father was Ethbaal. According to BDB definition, the name means "with Baal." He murdered his predecessor and became king of the Zidonians. He was also a priest of a heathen god. He was well known for Baal worship, as his name

suggests. He named his daughter Jezebel, which means “Baal exalts” or “Baal is husband to” or “unchaste” (BDB Definition).

Why were the two golden calves of Jeroboam light in comparison to Ahab’s marriage to Jezebel?

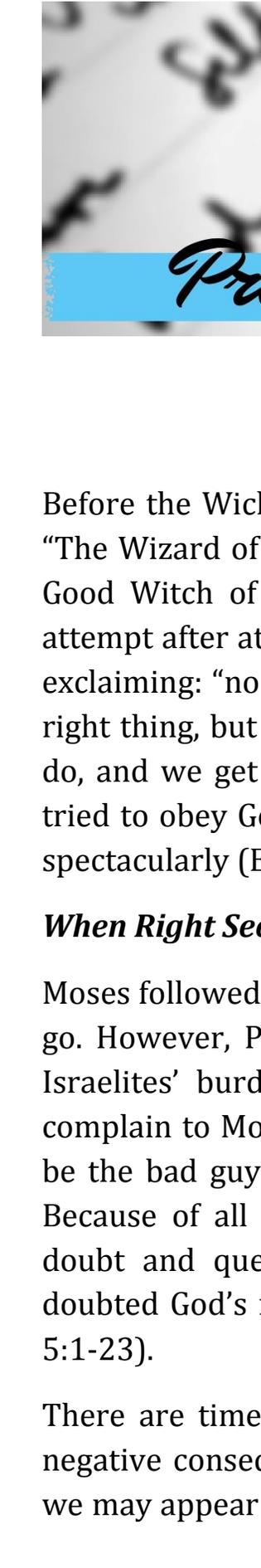
1. He married an idolatrous woman, who he knew would bring in the worship of Baal, and seemed to marry her with that design. Whereas the former kings of Israel had only perpetuated the sin of Jeroboam, i.e., the calf-worship, but Ahab served Baal, and worshipped him.
2. He married a woman infamous for cruelty. The cruelty of Jezebel is well documented in the scripture. She would use every means to persecute the true religion (1 Kgs 18:4, 13). She was hideously cruel, and put to death the prophets and priests of God. She would kill an innocent man to obtain his possession (1 Kgs 21:1-14). Notwithstanding all her infamous reputation, Ahab took her to be his wife.

A good wife is from God but a bad wife is from the devil. All the evil deeds that Ahab had done were attributed to the result of his marriage with this exceedingly wicked woman: **“But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up”** (1 Kgs 21:25).

Young man, would you marry such a woman? Many said they won’t; but they did. Sometimes, we hear conversations between old folks about their children’s marriages. And one woman would blame the change in her son on the woman he has married. She would say her son used to be very filial, kind and caring but since he got married to his wife, he has become a different person.

Young men and women, choose someone who has good Christian character. Do not marry for a face or a body. If you share the same pillow with a selfish and unkind person, you will become selfish and unkind. If you choose a “Jezebel”, you will become “Ahab”.

Don’t take marriage lightly. A right marriage brings bliss and happiness. A wrong marriage is a nightmare. Choose wisely: choose with God in mind. Let God be the matchmaker – choose a faithful Christian.



Preacher's exhortation

Am I the Villain?

by bro Ernest Lau

Before the Wicked Witch of the West began haunting Dorothy and her friends in “The Wizard of Oz,” she was actually a nice witch who was good friends with the Good Witch of the North, according to “The Wicked” musical. However, when attempt after attempt of trying to good fails, she gives up on being the good witch, exclaiming: “no good deed will I do again!” There are times when we try to do the right thing, but we fail, and so we start to doubt whether it was the right thing to do, and we get discouraged from doing good. Moses felt the same way when he tried to obey God’s instructions to speak to Pharaoh, only for his plan to backfire spectacularly (Exodus 5:1-23).

When Right Seems Wrong

Moses followed God’s instructions to speak to Pharaoh, in order to let the Israelites go. However, Pharaoh said no. Furthermore, Pharaoh reacted by increasing the Israelites’ burdens. Because of the increased burdens, the Israelites began to complain to Moses, and rebuked him for speaking to Pharaoh. Moses appeared to be the bad guy for bringing about all these hardships upon his fellow Israelites. Because of all these repercussions, Moses himself was confused, and began to doubt and question God. He doubted his usefulness as God’s messenger; he doubted God’s intentions; he doubted God’s ability to save the Israelites (Exodus 5:1-23).

There are times when the right thing seems to be the wrong thing, because of negative consequences that happen, instead of the expected result. Furthermore, we may appear to be the villain in the eyes of those whom we had actually tried to

help. When such happens, we may stop trying to do the right thing. We may doubt our usefulness. We may even doubt God.

Why Right Seems Wrong

The right action may seem to be wrong because of unmet expectations. Oftentimes, our expectations may be unreasonable in the first place, because we expected instant results; or else, we expected success to look exactly like what we had envisioned. Therefore we get disappointed when our expectations are not met. Moses probably thought that the only way for success was if Pharaoh said yes. What Moses did not realize – and often we also do not realize – is that God may have other plans for us.

The right action may seem to be wrong because of negative consequences that happen. Many times, these consequences arise from elements that are beyond our control. Pharaoh's decisions and actions were certainly beyond Moses' control. Also, bad things often happen when men reject the truth. Stephen was stoned to death because the Jews did not like the things he was preaching (Acts 7:54, 58).

When bad things happen, that is when complaints start to come in as well. The Israelites were unhappy with Moses for speaking to Pharaoh and causing all this trouble. What many do not realize is that we often have to suffer for doing the right thing. God does not promise a bed of roses for His faithful people, but rather, He promises persecution for those who would live in a godly fashion (2 Timothy 3:12). However, the occurrence of negative consequences or complaints does not necessarily mean that our actions were wrong.

But Right Is Not Wrong

The right thing is not based on our external circumstances, but on God's standard. The negative consequences that happened – i.e. Pharaoh saying no, and increasing the Israelites' burdens – do not make Moses' actions wrong. Rather, Moses' actions were right, because God had commanded so. It is God who decides what is right and wrong, not men (Proverbs 16:25). God's standard of right and wrong does not change with circumstances.

Seeing that the right action may not yield immediate results, we must persist in doing the right thing. Moses did not realize that, even if Pharaoh said no, God could still make it a success. Eventually, with Moses' persistence in going before Pharaoh

repeatedly, God was able to demonstrate His power through the ten plagues, and in the end, God did save the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. Therefore, we must persevere, and not grow weary in doing the right thing, knowing that “in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Galatians 6:9). Although we may not understand why the right action did not work out, we must trust not in our own understanding, but in God who will direct our path (Proverbs 3:5-7).

Above all, we must be prepared to suffer for doing the right thing. Since ancient times, the prophets of God suffered for doing God’s bidding. It is certainly much better that we suffer for doing the right thing, than to suffer for wrong-doing (1 Peter 3:17). Let us not give up in doing the right thing, but draw comfort that we will eventually be rewarded for our faithfulness to God: “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:10)



New Management Committee (MC)

2017/2018 Nomination

Please submit your nomination form for the new management committee in the MC nomination box at the pulpit area by **2 July, 12.30pm (TODAY)**.

Meeting Reminder

Management Committee Meeting

Date: 16 July 2017, Sunday

Time: 1.30pm

Health

1. Please pray for **bro Ivan** (*husband of sis Belinda*) as he has been admitted to TTSH for piles.

Away (Please pray for travelling mercies)

1. **Sis Naomi** will be travelling to New York & Canada from today till 17 Jul.

Guests Last Week

1. Bro Bobby Lim & family
(*Johor Bahru COC, Malaysia; sis Jasmine Lim's family members*)
2. Bro Andy Ling & sis Eng Yih Ting
(*Kota Kemuning COC, Malaysia*)
3. Sis Michelle Loh
(*Section 17 COC, Malaysia*)
4. Bro Roman Roger Wanasen & family
(*Bagong Silang COC, Philippines*)
5. Chia Yoke Ee (*bro Daniel's wife*)
6. Bai Guang Rong
(*sis Yan Ling's husband*)
7. Sherley Chew
(*bro John Lim's friend*)
8. Triston

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

8 July 2017, THIS SATURDAY

Senior Fellowship

Time: 10am-12nn

Venue: Church building

Highlight: Making no-sew Fleece
Scarf



Please inform bro Alvin or sis Ser Ern if you are interested to attend.

9 July 2017, Sunday

Youth Fellowship

Time: 1.30pm-3pm

Venue: Church building

Highlights: Team games & prayer session

All are welcomed to attend. Please approach bro Benjamin Kwan if you have any queries.

30 July 2017, Sunday

Evangelism Sunday

Time: 9.30am

Venue: Church building

Topic: The Gospel – Foolishness of Men but
Wisdom of God

Speaker: Bro Kwan Tai Choom

Please invite your family and friends to hear the good news!

Upcoming events!

26 Aug – Ladies Fellowship

26 Aug – Men's Fellowship

1-6 Sep – Philippines Mission Trip

22-25 Nov – FSC Lectureship

23-25 Nov – Gospel Meeting

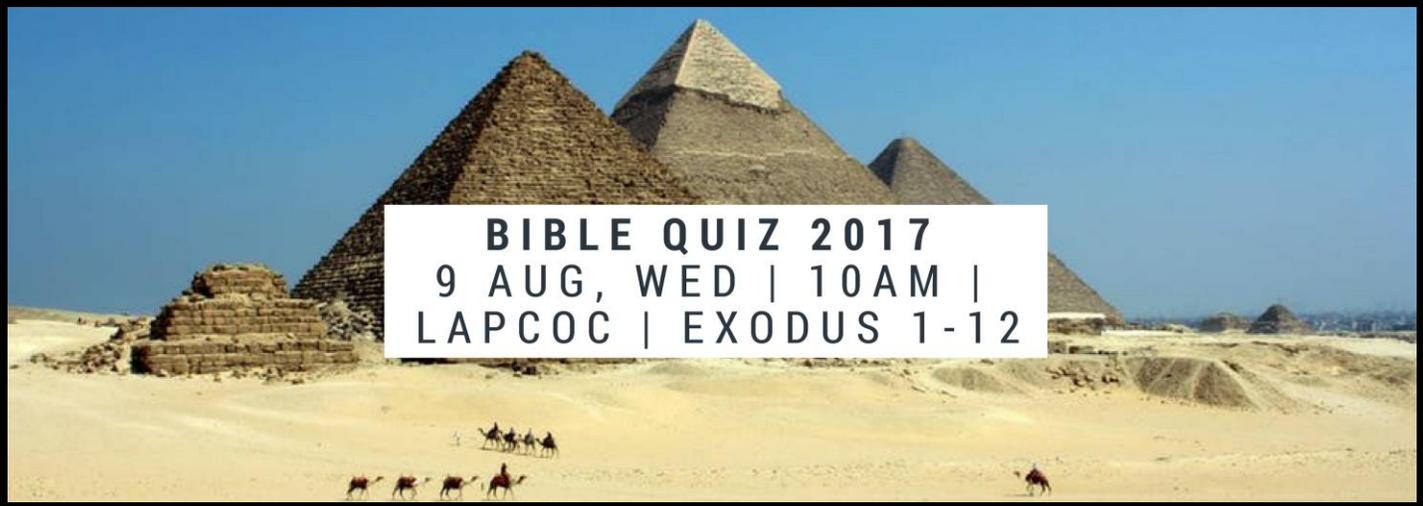
5 August 2017, Saturday

Area Cleaning

Time: 10am

Venue: Church building

More hands make light work!



BIBLE QUIZ 2017
9 AUG, WED | 10AM |
LAPCOC | EXODUS 1-12



Thursday Bible Class

Spiritual Maturity

By bro Jimmy Lau

Birthday of the week

3 Jul (Mon) – Gordon

4 Jul (Tue) – Nigel

6 Jul (Thu) – Lydia



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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- **Sis Joann** in Perth, Australia, for studies
- **Bro Long Jun** in China
- **Sis Swee Inn** in Canada

Health

- **Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's** health
- **Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's, Kwan Mama's & sis Peiyi's** health
- **Sis Kim Tian's** recovery from her skin problem
- **Bro Chee Beng's & sis Susan Ng's mother's** recovery
- **Lisa's (bro David Sum's daughter)** recovery from ACM
- **Bro Roberto's** recovery from osteoarthritis (operation on 1 August)

Expectant Mothers

- Sis Siew Siew (Sep), sis Adeline (Oct)

NSF

- Bro Joel Lee, bro Kevin

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		2 Jul 2017	9 Jul 2017	16 Jul 2017
Song Leader		Isaac Chua	Jonathan Yang	Justin Kwan
Opening Prayer Leader		Alvin Lin	Kenneth Quek	John Goh
Psalms Text		Psa 34:11-22	Psa 35:1-14	Psa 35:15-28
Preacher		Danny Poo	Lee Tian Seng	Peter Chin
Lord's Supper Text		Mar 14:22-25	Matt 26:26-29	Isa 53:4-9
Lord's Supper Servers	Scripture Reader	Henry Chee	Jeshua Lin	Zachary Ling
	Prayer: Bread	Nigel Poo	Wong Sek Hoong	Danny Poo
	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Ling Leong Dak	Benjamin Tan	Lau Jeng Sang
	Prayer: Offering	Timothy Ng	Reuben Lim	Ong Jun Wei
	Assistant	Jose Cardoza	Melvin Tan	Cornelius Lee
Foundation Class		Kenneth Liong	Ng Chee Beng	Ernest Lau
Announcer		Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau	Paul Lim
Greeters		Grace Ler Lois Chee	Constance Lau Wu Wenyu	Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
Song Leader & O.P.		Jimmy Lau	Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau
Speaker		Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau	Lee Tian Seng
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Henry Leow	Amos Yang	Jerry Cheong
Thursday Midweek Service		6 Jul 2017		13 Jul 2017
Song Leader				James Medez
Opening Prayer Leader				Henry Leow
Closing Prayer Leader				Reuben Lim