

7 JANUARY
2018

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

Deacons

Bro Henry Leow
Bro Jerry Cheong

Preachers

Bro Alvin Lin
Bro Ernest Lau

Administrator

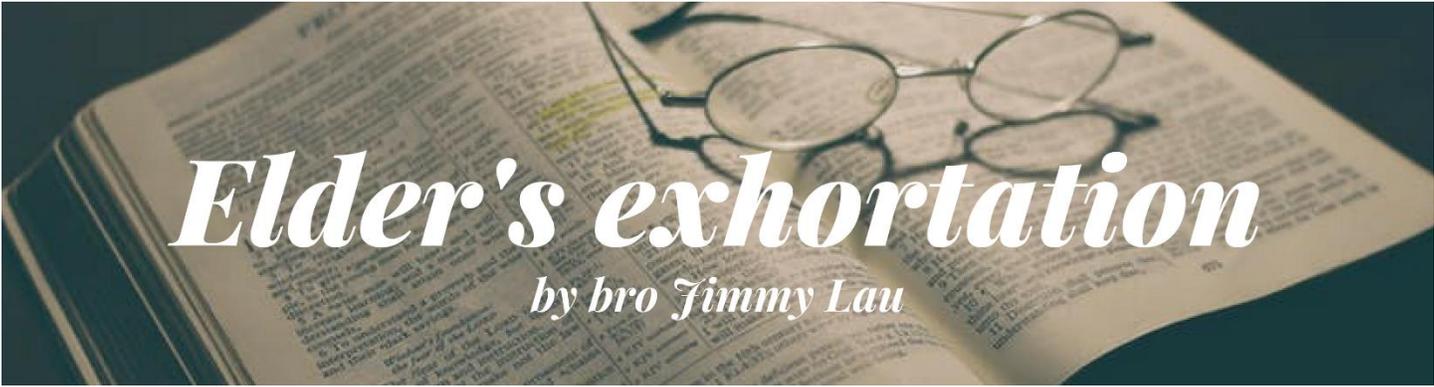
Sis Goh Ser Ern



HAPPY 2018!

MAY WE STRIVE TO DO MORE
FOR THE LORD THIS YEAR!

*Striving for Excellence in Family Growth
Theme for 2018*



Elder's exhortation

by bro Jimmy Lau

2Ki 15:9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

All those kings did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, for they walked in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. Jeroboam was infamous for introducing two golden calves into the worship of Jehovah (1 Kgs 12:28-29). God gave Jeroboam a kingdom and crowned him king over His nation Israel. Yet, Jeroboam did not thank God nor remember His goodness but in order to secure his reign, he abolished the national worship of the LORD and inaugurated the golden calves. By doing so, he drove his people away from the LORD and into sin. In light of this act, the scripture calls Jeroboam the man "*who made Israel to sin.*" The phrase "*Sins Of Jeroboam*" is found 15 times in the Old Testament and all in the books of 1 and 2 Kings.

Of the 18 kings of Israel who succeeded Jeroboam, 15 are reported to have acted like "*Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.*" The rest, though not compared to Jeroboam, were nonetheless evil kings and idolaters. None of them ever thought of destroying the golden calves. It was this sinful legacy that led to Israel's eventual destruction.

Jeroboam's sin was a rebellion against God. He changed the worship of the true God. Why did he do it?

It rose from a SELFISH Motive. He reasoned: "*If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah*" (1 Kgs 12:27). The "golden calves" was his solution to his fear.

Jeroboam told his people: *“It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt”* (1 Kgs 12:28). It was the biggest lie he could have possibly told: that these golden calves were the gods that delivered Israel from Egypt. Jeroboam knew what he did was wrong, but a lot of people in Israel believed it. It was a path that led to the nation’s destruction.

It is not a light thing when we walk in the sins of Jeroboam. The sins of Jeroboam are many and we see that they are still done today. I can assure you that Jeroboam was not the last person that made religion his tool to serve his selfish purposes.

Paul warned about false teachers that creep into the church to spread a lie: *“For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple”* (Rom 16:18).

False teachers and Jeroboam have a lot in common.

1. Both are preachers of lies – Jeroboam told a lie about the calves; false teachers lie about the truth. 1 Tim 4:1-2; 6:3-5; 2 Tim 4:4

2. Both have selfish motives – Jeroboam lied to secure his kingdom and false teachers lie to gain wealth. Rom 16:18; 1 Tim 6:5

3. Both pretend to have the interests of the hearers in their hearts – Jeroboam said the journey to Jerusalem would be too tiring for Israel and false teachers preach that baptism is too much of a hassle. Mk 16:16

4. Both make worship a matter of convenience – Jeroboam said it was more convenient to stay at home and worship the calves. False teachers make worship a matter of convenience and tell the hearers to choose the church that is more convenient to them. Matt 7:13-14; John 4:24

5. Both will arrive at the same destination of destruction - Jeroboam’s lie brought destruction to a nation. False teachings will bring damnation to the souls of those who believe them. Mark 16:17; Matt 7:13; 2 John 1:9-11

Let us beware of the sins of Jeroboam. Only the truth will save men from sins (John 14:6). One cannot believe a lie and go to heaven (Gal 1:6-9). Let us remove the “golden calves” in our worship and in our lives.



Preacher's exhortation

Give me Barabbas

By bro Ernest Lau

Luke 23:13-25 depicts the trial of Jesus before Pontius Pilate. The Jews, in their hatred for Jesus, sought reasons for Jesus to be condemned to death. However, Pilate could find no fault in Jesus. In fact, Pilate sought ways and means to have Jesus released. He tried to let the Jews choose between Jesus and another criminal. Therefore he picked the worst criminal he could find: Barabbas.

Barabbas was a prisoner who had been involved in an insurrection, and had also committed murder. Here was a criminal who deserved the punishment of death. Even the name "Barabbas" shows nothing good about this man: "Barabbas" literally means "son of a father." What a redundant description of a man! Barabbas was practically a nobody.

The Selection

When faced with the choice of Jesus versus Barabbas, the Jewish mob demanded the release of Barabbas, but the crucifixion of Jesus. Such a choice is literally incomprehensible. Barabbas was a murderer; Jesus was innocent (v.14-16, 22). Barabbas was a nobody (a "son of a father"); Jesus is the Son of the Father (John 20:30-31). Yet, many factors were in play in their decision-making. The Jews were influenced and pressured by the chief priests and scribes, who urged and instigated the crowd to call for Jesus' crucifixion (cf. Matthew 27:20). Perhaps sin prevented them from accepting Jesus as their Lord (John 3:20-21). Many also found it too inconvenient to follow after Jesus (John 6:60, 66).

Is it possible for Christians today to pick Barabbas instead of Jesus? We may not be standing in Pilate's hall, choosing between Jesus and Barabbas. However, in life we are

often presented with choices; often our choices involve choosing between Jesus and something else. Unfortunately, sometimes we do not pick Jesus. It could be due to pressure from friends and the world. It could be due to the temptation of sin. It could be due to a matter of inconvenience. Brethren, when we decide to choose our selfish desires over the cross of Jesus, we are in fact choosing Barabbas.

The Substitution

In selecting Barabbas over Jesus, a substitution had taken place. Barabbas was the one who ought to die for his crimes, but Jesus substituted him and took his place. However, being crucified had always been part of God's plan, as taught by Jesus Himself (Matthew 16:21), and construed since the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8). Jesus could even have called twelve legions to save Him, but He did not (Matthew 26:53). Jesus was the sacrificial lamb for sins, yet not just for Barabbas, but for the whole Jewish mob, and even for the whole world (John 1:29).

Brethren, we did not just choose Barabbas over Jesus; we are Barabbas himself. We are the sinner that was supposed to die, because we all have sinned, and are deserving of death (Romans 3:23; 6:23). Even though we choose Barabbas and sin over Jesus, yet by God's grace and love we have hope because of Jesus who took our place instead (Romans 5:8). Therefore, we must no longer choose sin, because Jesus did not die that we may sin again, but that we may live unto righteousness (1 Peter 2:24).

The Saviour

Jesus is the one who substituted and died for us. But really, He is the only one who could do that, because He is the only one who could offer that perfect, unblemished sacrifice for the redemption of the whole world (1 Peter 1:18-19). Jesus is our only Saviour, and only in Him can we find salvation (Acts 4:13). In order to receive that salvation, we need to believe on Jesus and obey His gospel (John 8:24; Acts 2:38).

Will we choose Jesus or Barabbas? It is an obvious choice: only Jesus can save us and offer us the hope of eternal life. However, making the right choice will require effort and self-sacrifice (Luke 9:31). Will we be like Moses, who chose to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season (Hebrews 11:25)? Will we be committed to choose Jesus in our everyday decisions, and make Him our number #1 priority? Or will we be selfish, and allow Barabbas to run free in our lives? Let us not be as the Jewish mob who said "Give me Barabbas;" let us say, "Give me Jesus."



January	
Kwan Shu Ling, Jasmine	1
Lim Choon Wah, Doreen	6
Lin Min Qun, Andy	10
Lee Jun Jie, Cornelius	12
Chang Peoy Eng, Nancy	15
Low Rhui Yin	15
Lau Sze Ngee, Ernest	20
Quek-Goh Guek Hoon	20
Tam Rui Si, Gracie	22
Li Zhao Hui, Candice	24
Tan Chun Ming, Benjamin	31
Wee-Wang Teng Pei	31



Wedding

Our heartiest congratulations to **bro Jeremy and his wife, Frances**, on their marriage last Saturday, 30 Dec 2017. Please pray for these newlyweds as they begin a new life together as husband and wife. The family would like everyone to join them on this happy occasion **TODAY** to a buffet lunch after bible class.

Health

Please pray for the health condition of the following:

1. **Sis Siew Siew's mother**, who has been discovered to have cysts in her womb.
2. **Bro Ivan**, who has been experiencing low oxygen levels.

Travel (Pray for travelling mercies)

1. **Sis Sydney** will be on a business trip to Taiwan from 8-12 Jan
2. **Bro Nigel** will be leaving for Dubai for work on 9 Jan
3. **Sis Joann** is in Nepal till 13 Jan
4. **Bro Joel & sis Grace** in Morocco till 14 Jan

Placing membership

We welcome **bro Michael Yeo & sis Kwee Eng** who have transferred their membership to the LAP English congregation.

New Members

We also welcome our new Four Seas students - bro Benbin (Philippines), sis Jessica (Philippines), sis Maria (China), sis Jeje (Philippines) and sis Por (Laos), who have placed membership with us. Their particulars are as follows:

Name	Email	Mobile	Birth Date
Benbin Aspacio	aspaciobensha@gmail.com	86552316	15 March 1990
Jessica Patete	jetash_024@yahoo.com	86985106	28 June 1986
Maria Fu	cattiness@foxmail.com	84244386	15 Dec 1989
Jeje Medez	imissjeje@yahoo.com		12 March 1992
Malaphone Inthirath (Por)	tatip.inthilath@gmail.com	-	22 June 1994

Guests Last Week

7. Bro Red Fuentes (*Baguio COC, Philippines*)
8. Sis Chua Shuan Kei (*Eastside COC, Australia*)
9. Sis Audrey Tan (*Klang COC, Malaysia*)
10. Sis Deborah Tan (*Tai Peng COC, Malaysia*)
11. Samuel Dela Cruz (*sis Mergie's husband*)
1. Alexis Ang (*bro Samuel's wife*)
2. Chloe Neo (*sis Sydney's cousin*)
3. Jeshua Ow Yong (*bro Benedict's friend*)
4. Regina & Cherie (*sis Swee Inn's helpers*)
5. Triston
6. Sis Lee Lee & Peter Hughes



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!

13 January 2018,

Saturday

Senior Fellowship

Time: 10am - 12nn

Venue: Church Building

Highlights:

Making of Kueh Ko Soi

All members are encouraged to invite your elderly family members for the activity and to come to assist the seniors.

Please inform sis Ser Ern if you are interested by today.

14 January 2018,

Sunday

Youth Fellowship

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Venue: Church Building

Start your new year on a great note by bonding with your fellow youths!

Come join us for games and a devotion!

20 January 2018,

Saturday

Evangelism Sunday

Tracting

Time: 4.30pm

Venue:

Blk 543 Hougang Ave 8
Singapore 530543

Let's start the year by sowing the seed of the gospel!

NEWS



Thursday Bible Class

Building Blocks for Good Relationships
by bro Benjamin Kwan

Birthday of the week

10 Jan (Wed) – Andy
12 Jan (Fri) – Cornelius
★★★★★★★

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Overseas:

- *Sis Farah* in London, UK, for studies
- *Bro Long Jun* in China

Health

- *Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's* health
- *Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's, sis Peiyi's & bro Ivan's* health
- *Bro Roberto's* migraine & recovery from his knee surgery
- *Sis Doris'* recovery from her surgery
- *Bro Capi's mother's* health
- *Sis Susan Goh's mother's, sis Jenny's mother's* health
- *Sis Wenyu's grandmother's* recovery from her surgery
- *Sis Diana's sister-in-law's* recovery from her condition
- *Sis Katie's sister's* recovery from her condition

Pregnancy

- Sis Lydia (Jun'18), sis Jasmine Chan (Jun'18), sis Debbie (Jun'18)

NSF

- Bro Kevin, bro Wei Jie, bro Benedict

MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

Morning Worship @ 9.30am		7 Jan 2018	14 Jan 2018	21 Jan 2018
<i>Song Leader</i>		Alvin Lin	Amos Yang	Ernest Lau
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>		John Goh	Charlie Teo	Benjamin Tan
<i>Psalms Text</i>		Psa 50:12-23	Psa 51:1-9	Psa 51:10-19
<i>Preacher</i>		Jimmy Lau	Ernest Lau	Alvin Lin
<i>Lord's Supper Text</i>		Isa 53:4-9	Php 2:5-11	1 Cor 11:23-29
<i>Lord's Supper Servers</i>	<i>Scripture Reader</i>	Shawn Wong	Henry Chee	Marc Wee
	<i>Prayer: Bread</i>	Danny Poo	Wong Sek Hoong	Farand Lim
	<i>Prayer: Fruit of Vine</i>	Ling Leong Dak	Kenneth Quek	Paul Lim
	<i>Prayer: Offering</i>	Cornelius Lee	Alan Poon	Timothy Ng
	<i>Assistant</i>	Ng Wei Xiang	Melvin Tan	Joel Lee
<i>Foundation Class</i>		Kenneth Liong	Arthur Yap	Lau Jeng Sang
<i>Announcer</i>		Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau	Benjamin Kwan
<i>Greeters</i>		Grace Ler Wu Wenyu	Lim Poh Im Shum Chee Ming	Ludina Carrido Jeshua Lin
Evening Worship @ 7pm				
<i>Song Leader & O.P.</i>		Jimmy Lau	Jeremy Kwan	Jonathan Yang
<i>Speaker</i>		Alvin Lin	Ernest Lau	Jimmy Lau
<i>Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.</i>		Alvin Chan	Lim Poh Teng	Ling Leong Dak
Thursday Midweek Service			11 Jan 2017	18 Jan 2017
<i>Song Leader</i>			Alvin Lin	Timothy Ng
<i>Opening Prayer Leader</i>			Andy Lin	Jerry Cheong
<i>Closing Prayer Leader</i>			Ong Jun Wei	Danny Poo