## 25 FEBRUARY 2018

# LAP BULLETII

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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)

#### 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



2Ki 22:8 And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

We have here, the discovery of the law of God. It seems that the book of the law was lost or missing. And the funny thing is that no one knew it had been lost. No one knew the law of God was lost until years later when they did a spring cleaning on the temple.

When did the law of God become lost? It was lost during the ungodly reigns of Manasseh and Amon; together, they reigned for 57 years. Those two ungodly kings desecrated the temple of God and introduced idolatry into Judah. When Manasseh set his idols in the temple of God, it was possible that he also shifted out the original furniture and placed them in a "store room" (2 Kgs 21:7). It was forgotten ever since until the eighteenth year of king Josiah when he commanded a spring cleaning on the temple.

For 75 (57+18) years, no one was looking for the law of God. No one missed it. No one knew it was lost. No one remembered there was such a book. It means no one had thought of reading or hearing from it. It was a totally forgotten book. Does it sound familiar?

The word of God is still a lost book today. In spite of it being readily available, few miss the book. Few turn to it or read it. Even fewer actually know the book.

The word of God is lost through negligence. It is a much neglected book. It is not a book that Christians want to read every day. It is not even a book that Christians want to carry in their hands these days, not even to church.

God said through the prophet Hosea: "**My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge**" (Hos 4:6). The church of Christ will suffer the same fate as the nation of Israel. Churches of Christ have been destroyed because Christians are not studying the bible and as a result, do not know the truth. As a result of this neglect, they do not know the truth and have turned to liberalism and other false teachings. The word of God is lost in the hands of God's own children!

Do you miss your bible each day? Is studying the bible one of your daily habits? Unfortunately, for most, the answer to the two questions is a big NO. It is the reason that the word of God is lost.

The word of God is lost because the children of God are not studying it. Christians are so distracted by the world and the electronic gadget in their hands that they are not studying the word of God. They find the word of God boring and dull. What will happen to the church of our Lord when truth is no longer in the lips of her worshippers? She will be just another denomination.

God gives us the bible for one reason: that we may know the truth: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15).

I just love my bible. I study it every day. It is a habit which was formed since I was young. I still spend hours each day on this book. If there is something that can keep me occupied for the whole day; it is the bible. It is the first thing I do every morning: "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97).

I am not writing about myself to boast but to encourage you to form the same habit of loving the word of God. I am a great advocate of studying your bible each day. It saddens me when Christians do not know the word of God.

Josiah did a spring cleaning and the result was they found the lost book; the law of God. Perhaps, it is time to do a spring cleaning to our lives, our souls, and hopefully, we will find the word of God. Remove the things that distract you from the word of God. You may not realise that the word of God is lost in you. But it is lost when you do not study it. It is lost when you neglect it. It is lost when you do not know it. Do you know the truth? I mean a real knowledge of the truth.

Do a spring cleaning: Have you been neglecting the word of God? The Psalmist exclaimed: "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psa 119:103).

Is the word of God sweeter than honey to you? Let us meditate on the word of God day and night and desire the knowledge of the truth above anything else. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer" (Psa 19:14).



### Jesus Christ—Historical Figure or Fairy-Tale Character?

Adapted from Kyle Butt, M.Div.

(http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=13&article=820)

Most children and adults easily recognize the name Jesus Christ. Many even can tell the story of His life. However, those same people also recognize the names Peter Pan, Snow White, and Cinderella. And they can relate the "facts" of these fairy tales as well. Is Jesus of Nazareth a fictional character that deserves to be included in a list of mystifying magicians, daring dragon slayers, and flying boy heroes? Or should His name take its well-deserved position in the halls of factual history?

Some people say that He is a myth, a legend that never walked the Earth. After all, it is true that we do not have one single book or letter written my Jesus Himself. And, of course, no one has produced any physical evidence (such as His body) to verify His existence. What evidence is available to prove that Jesus actually walked on this Earth?

#### **HOSTILE TESTIMONY**

Interestingly, the first type of records comes from what are known commonly as "hostile" sources. Hostile sources were written by people who disliked Jesus and His followers. Such men certainly did not want to further the cause of Christ or add credibility to His existence. In fact, they rejected His teachings and often reviled Jesus and His followers. Therefore, when these sources speak about Jesus, no one can accuse them of shading the facts in Jesus' favor.

A man named Tacitus will be the first hostile witness called to the stand. He was born about A.D. 56 and died about A.D. 117. He was an upper-class Roman with a good education who held high governmental positions under several Roman emperors. He is most famous for writing Annals—a history of Rome written around the year A.D. 115. In the Annals he told of the Great Fire of Rome, which occurred in A.D. 64. Nero, the Roman Emperor, was suspected by many of having ordered the city set on fire. Tacitus wrote:

Nero fabricated scapegoats, and punished with every refinement the notoriously depraved Christians (as they were popularly called). Their originator, Christ, had been executed in Tiberius' reign by the governor of Judea, Pontius Pilatus. But in spite of this temporary setback the deadly superstition had broken out afresh, not only in Judea (where the mischief had started) but even in Rome.

Tacitus hated both Christians and their namesake, Christ. He therefore had nothing positive to say about what he referred to as a "deadly superstition." He did, however, have something to say about it. His testimony establishes beyond any reasonable doubt that the Christian religion was historically relevant and that its originator was a verifiable historical figure so famous that He even attracted the attention of the Roman Emperor himself!

Additional hostile testimony comes from Suetonius, who wrote around the year A.D. 120. The writings of Suetonius are reliable piece of historical evidence. Twice in his history book, Suetonius specifically mentioned Christ or His followers. He wrote, for example: "Because the Jews at Rome caused continuous disturbance at the instigation of Chrestus, he [Claudius] expelled them from the city" (note that in Acts 18:2 Luke mentioned this expulsion by Claudius). Chrestus is probably a misspelling of Christos, the Greek word for Messiah. Suetonius further commented: "Punishments were also inflicted on the Christians, a sect professing a new and mischievous religious belief." Again, it is clear that Suetonius and the Roman government had feelings of hatred toward Christ and His so-called "mischievous" band of rebels. It is equally clear that Suetonius (and, in fact, most of Rome) recognized that Christ was the noteworthy Founder of a historical religion.

Another Roman by the name of Pliny the Younger also provided hostile testimony to the life of Jesus. In a letter he wrote around the year A.D. 110, he used the terms "Christian" or "Christians" seven times, and wrote the name "Christ" three times. It is undeniably the case that Christians, with Christ as their Founder, had multiplied in such a way as to draw the attention of the Emperor and his officials by the time of Pliny. After examining this kind of evidence, it is impossible to deny the fact that Jesus Christ was recognized as an actual, historical person.

Even a casual reader who glances over the testimony of the hostile Roman witnesses will be struck by the fact that these men did not portray Christ as the Son of God or the Savior of the world. They verbally stripped Him of His Sonship, denied His glory, and belittled His magnificence. They described Him to their contemporaries, and for posterity, as a mere man. Yet even though they were greatly mistaken about Who He was, they nevertheless documented that He was. And for that we are indebted to them.

## Bible Curriculum

of the month -

### March

Sunday	4 Mar	11 Mar	18 Mar	25 Mar		
Worship Sermon	How to let go & let God?  Lee Jong Wah	Abraham: Spiritual Leadership Alvin Lin	Joshua: The Optimist Peter Chin	David: A Man After God's Heart Jimmy Lau		
Adult Class	Book of Hosea Alvin Lin					
Young Adult Class	<b>4 Gospels</b> Benjamin Kwan					
Foundation Class	Important Doctrines of the Church Amos Yang					
Upper Primary	God's Beautiful World	Points From Proverbs	Solomon To Youth	The Proverbs On Wisdom		
Class	Eunice Chua					
Lower Primary	Ahab would not listen to God	Elijah and the chariot of fire	Elisha saves two boys from slavery	A little girl helps Naaman		
Class	Clara Lau					
Nursery Class	Little children come to Jesus	A little boy helps Jesus	Jesus helps a sick boy	Jesus visits a sick girl		
	Jasmine Chan					
Cradle Roll	God Made the Day-time & the Night-time  Jacqueline Wee					

Thursday	1 Mar	8 Mar	15 Mar	22 Mar	29 Mar	
Adult Class	The Christian & The World	The Christian & His Government	The Christian & The Church	The Christian & His Neighbour	The Christian & His Brother	
	Paul Lim					
Primary Class	God's Word Speaks to Hearts	Luke Wrote About Jesus	God's Word Reaches Many	Paul Wrote Letters from Prison	God's Word Tells What Lies Ahead	
	Wang Tingwei					
Nursery Class	Baby Moses is Saved	Moses and Pharaoh	Israelites in the Desert	Jericho	Judges	
	Quek Guek Hoon					

## WEEKLY NEWS

#### **Guests Last Week**

- 1. Bro Paul & sis Ivy (sis Baby's family members)
- 2. Bro Desmond Ng
- 3. Kenny Kee (sis Debbie's husband)
- 4. Frances Kwan (bro Jeremy's wife)
- 5. Chloe Neo (sis Sydney's cousin)
- 6. Gan Sok Ting (bro Reuben's friend)
- 7. Shalen Manuel (sis Seow Hui's helper)

#### Health

Please pray for the health & recovery of the following:

- 1. **Sis Shu Fang's mother** from her inflammed swollen varicose veins
- 2. **Sis Doris' mother** from her heart condition & fractured wrists
- 3. **Bro Jerry's nephew** from coma & for his family and loved ones during this difficult period.

#### Travels (Please pray for travelling mercies)

1. **Bro Nicodemus and sis Christine** will be travelling to Canada from 26 Feb to 12 Mar to visit his family and to celebrate CNY with them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Chinese New Year Celebration



25 February 2018

LAP Church building

1:30pm - 3:00pm

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

CNY songs, performance & games!







#### **Thursday Bible Class**

The Christian and the World by bro Paul Lim

#### Birthday of the week

25 Feb (Sun) - Yan Ling



Please send any news & prayer requests to <a href="mailto:limahpincoc@gmail.com">limahpincoc@gmail.com</a>

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### **Overseas:**

- Sis Shuan Kwee in Hong Kong
- Sis Farah, bro Siang Yee, bro Gavin in London, UK, for studies
- **Bro Long Jun** in China
- *Bro Nigel* in Dubai

#### **Health**

- Sis Baby's & Auntie Yeoh's health
- Sis Suan Kiang's, sis Linda's & sis Peiyi's health
- **Bro Roberto's** migraine
- Sis Fong Yoke's recovery from her cataract operations
- Sis Doris' recovery from her spine surgery
- Bro Capi's mother's health
- Sis Susan Goh's mother's, sis Jenny's mother's, Sis Siew Siew's mother's health
- Sis Annie Cheong's husband from his skin allergy
- Lisa, bro David & sis Jenny's daughter, from giddiness & headaches

#### **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		25 Feb 2018	4 Mar 2018	11 Mar 2018		
Song Leader		Jonathan Yang	James Medez	Isaac Chua		
Opening Prayer Leader		Jerry Cheong	Chua Kian Hong	Kenneth Quek		
Psalms Text		Psa 55:13-23	Psa 56:1-13	Psa 57:1-11		
Preacher		Benjamin Tan	Lee Jong Wah	Alvin Lin		
Lord's Supper Text		1 Cor 11:23-29	Mar 14:22-25	Matt 26:26-29		
	Scripture Reader	Axel Chee	Gideon Quek	Jeshua Lin		
I oud's	Prayer: Bread	Charlie Teo	Joel Lee	Wong Sek Hoong		
Lord's Supper Servers	Prayer: Fruit of Vine	Henry Chee	Alvin Chan	Danny Poo		
	Prayer: Offering	Alan Poon	Timothy Ng	Paul Lim		
	Assistant	Yew Tian Geng	Melvin Tan	Titus Goh		
	Foundation Class	Ernest Lau	Kenneth Liong	Justin Kwan		
Announcer		Amos Yang	Alvin Lin	Lee Tian Seng		
Greeters		Lim Poh Im	Ludina Carrido	Diana Phoo		
		Shum Chee Ming	Jeshua Lin	Teo Kim Tian		
Evening Worship @ 7pm						
Song Leader & O.P.		Jonathan Yang	Timothy Ng	Kevin Lee		
Speaker		Amos Yang	Benjamin Kwan	Alvin Lin		
Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P.		Henry Leow	Jerry Cheong	Alvin Chan		
Thursday Service @ 7.45pm			1 Mar 2018	8 Mar 2018		
Song Leader			Alvin Lin	Benjamin Kwan		
Opening Prayer Leader			Low Chong Ping	Peter Chin		
Closing Prayer Leader			Benjamin Tan	Ong Jun Wei		
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