



The Lighthouse

What are your Idols?

Bro. Evertus Bispham gave the message on Sunday, Sept. 20th. His text was taken from Exodus Chapter 20: 1-5. The following is an edited version.



Bro. Evertus Bispham

The 10 Commandments, God's Standard Operating Procedures, are divided into two sections. The first four are commonly known as the vertical commandments – dealing with our relationship with GOD . The next six are commonly known as the horizontal commandments – dealing with our relationship with our fellow man.

The 1st and 2nd commandments are linked and complement each other. In Verse 1, God begins the first commandment by demanding that He be our exclusive God. He demands that we love Him with our soul, mind and strength and that we enthrone Him as the absolute Lord of our lives, that we enthrone His will as the supreme authority for our lives and, ultimately, that we dethrone ourselves.

Verse 4. Do not allow anything or anyone to be the central focus of our life or we should not allow anything to be an idol in our life (Eph 2:1). We come into this world alienated from God, separated from God, disconnected from God.

Man needs to worship something and unregenerate man does the only thing that he can do, that is he finds something to worship other than the true and living God - something he can touch, something he can feel, something he can physically relate to. He bows down to it and he makes it the No. 1 priority, the No. 1 focus of his life. The Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans worshipped various idols. Some people focus on money. Money is their idol. Money is the thing they bow down to and worship. What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul (Mark 8:36). Is it worth the risk????

(Continued on Page 4)

Berean Celebrates 59th Anniversary!

The Berean Bible Church was founded on 14th May 1956. This year, the Church will celebrate its 59th Anniversary with a special Concert of Praise and Worship in Song on Sunday 18th October 2015 at 6.00 p.m. Members of the Church are all invited and are requested to invite friends and relatives to join us. It is a free concert.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

- Sun. 11 – 10:40 Morning Service
- Sun. 18 – 10:40 a.m. Anniversary Service
- Sun. 18 – 6.00 p.m. Berean Anniversary Concert
- Sun 25th Grazettes Anniversary Service
- Sat. 31 Flea Market

NOVEMBER

- Sun. 01 – 10:40 a.m. Morning Worship and Communion
- Sun. 08 – 9:30 a.m. Open Sunday School

Church Notices

The following are the Notices presented by Sis. Celeste Porte on Sunday 11th October 2015:

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Bro. Chris and Sis. Deirdre Boyce on their **5th** Wedding Anniversary!

COPIES OF "DAILY BREAD"

Sis. Marion has indicated that members of the congregation can place orders for the "Daily Bread" books now.

MEETINGS AT HOTHERSAL

Meetings are being scheduled to be held at Hothersal on the weekend of **Friday 30th October - Sunday 1st November 2015**. Further details will be made available next week.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Envelopes are available now for members of the congregation to make donations to Christmas Hampers.

ITEMS REQUIRED FOR FLEA MARKET

There is a need for men's wear and children's clothing (in good condition) and household items for the Flea Market.

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF THE QEHS CONCERT

The congregation is asked to support a Concert being held by The League of Friends of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at the Frank Collymore Hall on **Saturday 7th November 2015**. Funds from this concert will be used to purchase a Defibrillator machine for the Q.E.H. Bro. Owen Thompson has tickets for this concert. Your contribution is **\$ 50.00**.

POEM TO MARK THE 59TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH — By Sis. Crystalene Harewood

Praise Him

1. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness
And for His amazing grace.
We praise Him for His guidance,
While we run the Christian race.
2. For to us He is so many things -
Our Redeemer, Provider and Friend;
So we should praise and worship Him
Until our journey's end.
3. We'll praise Him in the good times,
Give thanks in adversity,
Remember that He is always near,
No matter what our challenge might be.
4. All majesty and power
Belong to Him alone.
Let's praise Him in his glory,
As He sits upon his throne.
5. We commit ourselves to Him today
The shepherd of His flock
Let's worship and adore Him
For He is our solid rock

A DAY IN JERUSALEM -SIS. GOLDIE SPIELER

The following article was sent by Sis. Goldie Spieler from Jerusalem on Thursday 8th October 2015.



Sis. Goldie Spieler in Jerusalem

I sit here at my little desk, looking out the window towards King George St, where traffic is moving slowly, normally and people are walking, doing their personal chores, carrying parcels. It is an hour or so past school leaving time, so there are few young people in school uniform to see, Except for a lone skateboarder my little park with the horse statue, is virtually empty. Later, when the daylight will be fading, people with small dogs and small children will come out and sit while the dogs and children play tag with one another.

It is a far cry from the biased news stories that I know are being broadcast on major TV stations and on Facebook and on other social media. There are stone-throwing, Molotov cocktail throwing Muslim people in many of our suburbs, trying to kill, or at least maim, Israeli citizens who are simply coming home from work. My ladies prayer evening has been cancelled in order not to put any of our women members in danger. But life continues and I thank my Lord that he has established me into the centre of this wonderful city where virtually everyone is either Jewish or peaceful hearted Palestinian. Today I walked openly and freely on the streets to and from the open market filling my hand trolley with all manner of fresh foods and it was an overcast day when we should have gotten rain but didn't.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Pray for salvation for my people and those who live amongst us. Only through Jesus, or Yeshua as He is known here, will this terrible dilemma be resolved.

(Continued from page 1 - Bro. Evertus Bispham)

Our idols are more subtle, we have a house, a car, even furniture. Yet our nature is such that we are always searching for a more attractive house, car or furniture. God condemns idolatry many times in the Bible. Why is idolatry such a big thing with God? He explains why in Verse 5 - God is a jealous God. Exodus 34:14 says: “**For thou shalt worship no other God. For the Lord, whose name is jealous, is a jealous God.**” God is jealous when it comes to our love. God is jealous when it comes to our devotion. God compares our relationship with Him to a marriage relationship. When one partner goes off and gives their affection to someone else we call that physical adultery. When we go off and give our affection to something else, God considers that to be spiritual adultery. In fact, He says that in Eze 23: 37 - “**For with their Idols they have committed Adultery**”. This is why God hates idolatry with a passion. Idolatry is a betrayal of His love to us at the deepest level, when it comes to our love and devotion to Christ.

God wants no rivals, no competitors and no suitors but Him and Him alone.

1 John 5 : 21 Little children keep yourselves from idols.

1 Cor 10 : 14 – Wherefore my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

Idol of family ties: Matt 10 - 34 – 36. In the early Church, when a Jewish person embraced Jesus as the Savior, he or she would be banished from the family. In Egypt, some converted Muslims are sent from Egypt by wealthy Christians to prevent the convert from persecution and possible “Honour killing” by their families. Some parents do not support their child if he or she wants to be a missionary. They prefer a prestigious career, such as doctor, lawyer etc,. When you embrace God, you are likely to cause trouble in the family. Matt 10: 37 says: “**He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me**”. We must love family but do not put your family before God.

Idol of Material Things - 1 John 2: 15 & 16. “**Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.**” He did not say not to enjoy them – as long as they remain in their rightful place. No matter how much we have, we want more. No matter how nice our house, car, furniture may be, it makes no difference. Consider Proverbs 27:20, “**The eyes of man are never satisfied.**”

Idol of Self - Acts 17: 4 – 7. When Paul and Silas arrive in Thessalonica there is another King other than Ceasar – Jesus Christ. We are living in a world where everyone wants to be their own boss, wants to determine their own destiny, wants to set their own boundaries and wants to be in control of their own lives. We put ourselves on the throne of our lives. We worship our wisdom, our talents, our successes, our fame, our education and even our ability to scheme to get what we want. The Apostle John calls it the boastful pride of life.

Rom 12:3 – Do not think more highly of ourselves than we ought, but rather use sober judgment.

This verse should be written on Police Stations, The Supreme Court, House of Assembly, to name a few.

Jesus’s Letter, through John to the Church at Ephesus, Rev 2: 1 – 5. What a great church! but You have lost your first love Repent. Make a U turn and do the things you did when you first accepted Jesus as your personal Saviour, *being passionately in love with Jesus. If we are not careful, slow erosion can take place and it could come from any of the three idols – 1. An unhealthy love of family, 2. An inordinate love for material things 3. Twisted love of self.* Sometimes without even noticing, we have lost our first love. What does God say to us? Repent!!!

We are encouraged to get on our knees daily and petition God to remove any idols and allow the Holy Spirit to restore Him to His rightful place in our lives.

Final word – 2 Chron 16: 9 “**For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him.**”

In our own energy and strength, we can never keep commandment No: 2 or satisfy Revelation chapter 2 and keep Jesus as the first love of our lives. The Holy Spirit must dethrone us and enthrone Christ.

Have you lost your first love? If you have not..... praise God. If you have REPENT and allow the Holy Spirit to do a marvelous restoration in your life.

Progress of New Church Building at Hothersal

On Saturday 3rd October 2015, members of the congregation were once again granted an opportunity to visit the site at Hothersal to see progress made on the new building.



Over the past two months, work has been intensifying on the roof. Those who visited were able to see the structure with the roof in place and relax in the coolness of the building. The church is spacious and well ventilated.



Porch area

At the front of the church, there is a roof built over the driveway at the entrance to the building which is already visible. This will allow drivers to drive up to the church and drop off persons, particularly when it is rainy or when there are special events such as a wedding.

It was a pleasure to see the young and the old gathered to see the facilities. Everyone seemed satisfied with progress.

Members of the congregation have so far been responding to the request for donations for building materials. This fund now stands at **\$ 10,845.00.** *We ask that you continue to make pledges to support this venture of making the Church building ready for God's work.*



(L-r) Bro. Henderson Phillips, Sis. Joyce Wells and Sis. Maureen Branch



Sis. Lucy Crichlow , Bro. Nicholas Williams, Bro Kenny St. Cyr, Sis. Rachel Williams and Bro. Rick Licorish .



Bro. Nicholas , Sis. Rachel and the Williams family.

GETTING BACK TO BASICS

Bro. Thomas Bentley, former Board member, former Treasurer of the Berean Bible Church, and brother of Sis. Diana Bentley, delivered the message on Sunday 4th October 2015. In his message, he used the imagery of an old car being repaired and made reference to his work on this old car. He explained in his preamble that he felt driven to share the Word and he had finally made the decision to do so.

Many years ago, he had become involved in repairing old cars and the Lord was now asking him to use his experience and bring a message. He added that he hoped the message would be an inspiration to the congregation. The following is an edited version of his message:



Bro. Thomas Bentley

We sang the song “Nothing but the blood of Jesus,” but have you ever made the choice that we all should make - do I accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour now, or do I put it off?

Since Bible times mankind has been putting off this most important decision. Jesus said to Peter :“follow me”, and right away Peter did. On the other hand one person said to Jesus “let me first go and bury my father.” Another said “let me first go and say my goodbyes to my friends and family.” Some of us say that we will give our hearts to Jesus when we are older. Yes, we have time now for everything else except Jesus. Jesus wants us when we are young and when we are old.



Are we like an old car and in need of repair or a makeover?



The same car dismantled.



Engine - The heart of the car.

Some of us say “first I have to change my ways because God would not want me in my condition.” But remember Isaiah 1:18: ‘Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.’ Add to that also Ephesians 2: 8-9: “For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves - not of works, less any man should boast.” If you have not given your heart to the Lord ask Jesus to come into your life as your Saviour and Lord and He will. The song says “just as I am without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me.” Do not wait, do it now. John 3 ;16 - for God so lovedThe words of another song says “out of the depths of ruin untold - Jesus I come.” The scriptures say in Romans 8 ;1, “there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Do you know what happens when you make this commitment to God?

In Luke chapter 15, we have 2 parables. The first is about the man who lost a sheep and goes after that single sheep and the second about a woman who lost a coin and who lights a lamp and sweeps the house to find it. That same chapter in verse 10 says that “there is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.”

Now you have given your heart and soul over to God, what next?

Well, don't try to play games with God. Ask him to give you a complete make over - but mean it. Be prepared for what God will do in your life.

He may start to dismantle you and your desires step by step. He will remove your desires for the things of this world that you thought were so important.

He will take a special look at your major part - your heart, because his word in Matthew 15:19 says "for out of the heart proceeds evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, thefts, blasphemies." In psalm 51:10, David asks God to create in him a new heart.

God will examine your feet. Romans 3:15 says that all of us as sinners have feet that are swift to shed blood, but he wants to change this. Psalm 40:2 says that he wants to "set our feet upon a rock"

He will examine our innermost thoughts. You may think that no one knows what you spend a lot of time thinking about, but in 1 Corinthians 3:20, we read that "the lord knows the thoughts of the wise that they are futile."

So God will examine your heart, your feet, your thoughts. In other words, he will strip you bare. He wants to start with a clean canvas. In one of our songs, we cry out to God, "Lord you are the Potter, I am the clay; mold me and make me after Your will, while I am waiting yielded and still." God will do just that. In the renewing process, expect that God will use what you might think of as strange methods to get your parts back into alignment.really strange methods, but, remember in Isaiah 55:8 we read these words, 'nor are your ways my ways says the Lord.'

While God is remaking us, we need to surround ourselves with people that will help us on our new journey with the Lord. Your pastor, your cell group leader, and close friends that you know are Christians and have walked this way before. If you ask God to, he will send some person to guide and direct you.

We tend to judge people by what they look like, or by some standards that we believe people should be like to be able to help us. In John 7:24, Jesus said 'do not judge according to appearance.' God will send someone to you, who might not fit in to your description of what you need, but one who turns out to be just the person that is the right one for you at this time. Praise god!

Now you have changed, you no longer do things that you used to, and now do things that you never thought that you would do.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new. Beware, this is the time the devil starts to attack. Now is the time to trust in God. Go to Him in prayer and learn to trust him in all things. Take time to read the bible, spend some quiet time with him. God will give you peace of mind

Philippians 4: says "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving. Make your request known to God, and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

CHRISTIAN HUMOUR

Q. When was meat first mentioned in the Bible?

A. When Noah took Ham into the ark.

Q. At what time of day was Adam created?

A. A little before Eve.

Q. Where is the first math homework problem mentioned in the Bible?

A. When God told Adam and Eve to go forth and multiply.



The 'heart' of the car being examined.



A vibrant fully renewed car

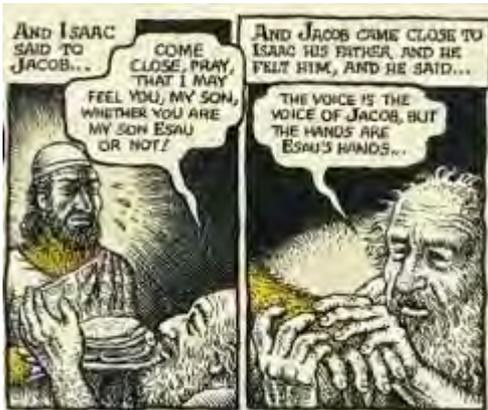
CHILDREN'S QUIZZES

A. Read the story of Joseph and fill the spaces provided below with the correct word:

Joseph had _____ brothers.
 Jacob gave a colourful _____ to Joseph.
 The Pharaoh sked Joseph to interpret his _____.
 Joseph's brothers threw him in a _____.
 Joseph _____ his brothers instead of punishing them
 _____ helped Joseph through every situation.



B. Read the story of Esau and his brother, Jacob. Then fill the spaces provided with the correct name:



_____ told his oldest son, _____ to prepare a meal to receive his blessing. _____ wanted _____ to receive the blessing instead. _____ and _____ planned to trick _____ by using disguise. _____ wore animal fur to make his arms feel hairy like _____'s arms. The disguise worked! Because he was blind, _____ thought he passed his blessing to _____. _____ was upset with _____ for sealing their father's blessing.

General Questions

- Q: What is the first book in the Bible? _____
- Q: What is the last book in the Bible? _____
- Q: What four books tell about Jesus life on Earth? _____
- Q: What is the longest book in the Bible? _____
- Q: What is the shortest book in the Bible? _____
- Q: How many books are in the Bible? Old Testament? New Testament? _____

(From an email shared by [Bro. Colin Jackson](#) and [Sis Marion Manning](#))

A lovely little girl was holding two apples in both hands.

Her mum came in and softly asked her little daughter with a smile; my sweetie, could you give your mum one of your two apples?

The girl looked up at her mum for some seconds, then she suddenly took a quick bite on one apple, and then quickly on the other.

The mum felt the smile on her face freeze. She tried hard not to reveal her disappointment.

Then the little girl handed one of her bitten apples to her mum, and said: mummy, here you are. This is the sweeter one.

No matter who you are, how experienced you are, and how knowledgeable you think you are, always delay judgement.

Give others the privilege to explain themselves.

What you see may not be the reality. Never conclude for others.

Which is why we should never only focus on the surface and judge others without understanding them first.



Recipe Corner

RECIPE FOR BAJAN SALT BREAD
(Article supplied by Sis. Brigette James)

Ingredients

6 1/2 cups of white flour
2 teaspoons of white granulated sugar
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
2 packs of yeast
2/14 cups of warm water

DIRECTIONS

Sift half of the flour and mix with salt and yeast in a large mixing bowl and slowly add warm water, mixing continually until the mixture forms a stiff dough, keep adding more sifted flour until you have a dough stiff enough to knead.

Lightly flour the work surface, and knead dough for 10 minutes until it is smooth and elastic, then place in a greased bowl. Now place bowl in a warm place for 40-50 minutes until it has doubled in size. You know dough is ready, when you poke a finger in it and the indentation remains. Pre-heat oven to 425 degrees F or 220 degrees C.

Now divide the dough into 12 equal portions and roll each one into a fist size ball and place on a greased baking sheet, now place in a warm place again for a further 40 minutes or again until the dough has doubled in size.

Now place in the center of the oven and bake for 25-30 minutes until rolls are golden brown and sound hollow when tapped.