

MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	20 APRIL	27 APRIL
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Sui Lin, Priscilla, Josephine, Lillian & Ai Lin	Sui Lin, Priscilla, Josephine, Lillian & Ai Lin
USHERS	ALVIN & SUI LIN	JOVIN & POI CHING
BIBLE STUDY	YEOW Leadership Lessons from Bible Women	YEOW Leadership Lessons from Bible Women
SERMON	ENG KIM LENG Eve, in contrast with Jezebel: On the nature of sin (James 1:13)	KOAY CHUAN LEK The Churches Of Christ Salute You (Romans 16:16)
SONG LEADING	YEOW CHIN KIONG	ALVIN GOH
OPENING PRAYER	MAHIBAN	FRANCIS LAI
SCRIPTURE READING	WEN LIANG	OOI CHONG HAI
LORD'S SUPPER	YONG ENG LIM & CHRIS LEOW	RENGA & BENJAMIN WONG
COLLECTION	RENGA	TEE CHEE LIK
ANNOUNCER	RICHARD LEE	CHARLIE CHAN
CLOSING PRAYER	CHARLIE CHAN	ENG KIM LENG
CHORES	JENETTE	JENNY LIM

PORTFOLIOS OF CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2008

Chairman
Charlie Chan

Deputy Chairman
Richard Lee

Secretary
Edward Low

Treasurer
Eng Kim Leng

Benevolence
Eng Kim Leng

Evangelism
Richard Lee

Education
Yeow Chin Kiong

Youth Work
Alvin Goh
Benjamin Wong

Sunday School
Richard Lee

Property/ Utilities
Ooi Chong Hai

DAYBREAK



BENEVOLENCE**EDIFICATION**EVANGELISM

VOL. 10 No. 16
20 April 2008

A weekly handout for members of
CHURCH OF CHRIST
20, JALAN SS 19/1G,
47500 SUBANG JAYA,
SELANGOR,
MALAYSIA.

03-56380046
cocsj@tm.net.my
http://sjcoc.bizhat.com

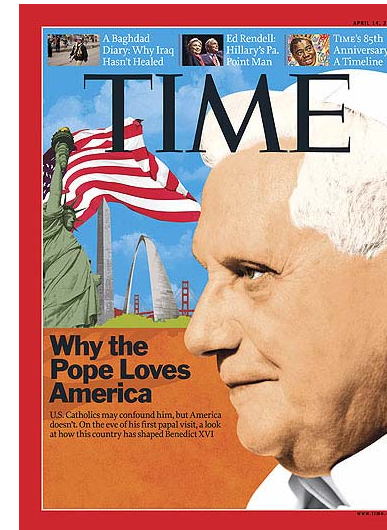
SUNDAYS:
9.30 AM
BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10.30 AM
WORSHIP
2.30PM
MANDARIN WORSHIP

FRIDAYS:
8.00 PM
BIBLE STUDY

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that



THE SCRIPTURES BEHIND THE STORIES #45 Should society take the blame for sin ? Yeow Chin Kiong



In recent years, the Roman Catholic church has been rocked by the scandal of pedophilia (the sexual abuse of children) among those who held office in the denomination. Some of the perpetrators were those entrusted to care for homeless children, violating the responsibility entrusted to them to protect and nurture their young charges and clearly incurring the condemnation of

Matthew 18:5-6 : "Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea". Even worse were the attempts over the years by highly-placed officers of the denomination to cover up incidences of pedophilia among clerics, encouraging more such incidences until victims took enough courage to step out with their complaints and accusations.

STATISTICS FOR 13 APRIL 2008

CONTRIBUTION	RM2,061
BIBLE STUDY	49
VISITORS/YOUTHS CLASS	5 / 5
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	58
FRI - BIBLE STUDY (11 APRIL)	29
MANDARIN WORSHIP	11
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM177

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He himself tempt anyone.

James 1:13

During his April 2008 visit to the United States, the world press reported that Pope Benedict XVI placed part of the blame for the sin of his officers on society's eroded moral values. News headlines paraphrasing the Pope screamed, "Society cause of church sex scandal". Insofar as the world wrongly associates all denominations with the Lord's singular church (Matthew 16:18), this is very sad. It is usually a small step from blaming society,- even in part,- for our sins to blaming God Who allows sin to prevail in society.

Christians are told not to blame others but to bring about positive change among unbelievers around them. "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16).

It goes without saying that the world is gripped by sin. According to I John 5:19 We live in a fallen world which lies in sin and wickedness. But God is still in control and ruling over all His creation. He "*works all things according to the counsel of His will*" (Ephesians 1:11). Jesus said, "*All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth*" (Matthew 28:18). The Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:13 ends with "*For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever*". In Ephesians 1:20-22 it is said of Christ that God "*raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come; and hath put all things under his feet.*" Daniel 4:17,25,26 tell us three times that "*the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will*". 2 Chronicles 20:6 affirms: "*O Lord God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand is there not power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You?*"

In Luke 4:6, during the Lord's temptation, Satan lied,- consistent with his character (John 8:44),- when he told Jesus that all the kingdoms of the world were his and that he gave them to whomsoever he would. Even though it may appear that wickedness is overwhelming and winning, Christians should be unshaken as regards God's sovereignty. The world cannot influence us if we will not let it do so. There was no excuse for Noah to succumb or cling on to a world when all around him "the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). There was also no excuse for Lot to be overtaken by the morality of Sodom's population , which was overwhelmingly evil (Genesis 18:20 to 19:29)

The only explanation for sin is that it has a personal cause, the blame not lying with God nor "society" : "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death" (James 1:12-15).

If the Lord could with authority say, "Get behind me, Satan" (Matthew 16:23) when Peter was a stumbling block to Him, can we not say "Get behind me, Society" when those around us are a stumblingblock to our faithfulness to God, instead of succumbing to their invitation to sin and later blaming them for our weakness?

SJ NEWS UPDATE

OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

Sun - Angel & Jun Hon (SJ's guests) * Mr Khoo, Stephanie, Maxine & Wilton (Karen's family & parents) * Pui Yee (Daniel's wife) * Aneesha (Mahiban's daughter) ; Mandarin - Joanna (Tze Yean's guest)

OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

Fri - Lawrence & Li Li (Klang) * Allan & family and Yu Kong (Malacca)

Sun - Sis Hor (Klang) ; Mandarin - Tze Yean (Kuantan) * Chin Ah Soon & Pow Ching (Klang) * Koays (Malacca)

PRAYER REQUESTS : For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, Frank Pierce, Mahiban, Gary, Mr Chiah Tee Sang (Sis Tee's brother-in-law), Ah Ngen (Han's brother), Steven How (*Daybreak* printer) * Santhi and family * Yik Min's grandmother * Charlie DiPalma's eyesight*

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR LEELA : As she rests from another round of chemotherapy

AWAY FROM US THIS MORNING: Richard, conducting evangelism workshop in Kuantan * Edward & family in Malacca sharing with the youths on careers in banking yesterday and preaching this morning to the brethren there.

OUR APPRECIATION TO: Ooi Chong Hai for fixing the door knobs of the assembly premises.

CHURCH LUNCH: Please inform Josephine our co-ordinator, of the food you intend to bring next Sunday, 27 April 2008

HAPPENING THIS WEEK: Chans' home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 23 April

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

1. Dr Koay Chuan Lek from Klang will be preaching to us next Sunday.
2. Evangelism Seminar 1 May
3. Ladies Fellowship - 4pm, Saturday 10 May with Mary DiPalma. Kuantan trip on hold.
4. Sunday School Open Day Saturday, 24 May