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Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm
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Sobering Thoughts on the Demise of a Queen to Meet the King of Kings

Rev 21:24 *“And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.”*

Not just the 56 million people of Great Britain but the greater part of the English-speaking world in the Commonwealth and beyond would be grieving and mourning these few weeks or more at the demise of Queen Elizabeth II on 8 Sep 2022. She was 96 years old and with 70 years of reign was one of the longest reigning monarchs (after Louis IV of France). She came to the throne in 1952 after the death of her father King George VI.



Queen Elizabeth II went home to meet her glorious King of kings in heaven from Balmoral Palace in Aberdeenshire, Scotland peacefully. She was the quintessential monarch, well loved by many of her subjects as she reached out to millions in her realm with her many trips overseas to Commonwealth countries and beyond and locally in England as well. **Many have been awed by her winsome disposition, an epitome of towering strength and stability, her affable warmth and her unwavering faith in her God which she professed openly on many occasions. Since Henry VIII of the 16th century, she was also the Defender of the Faith and the Head of the Church of England among other titles. She represented the constitutional monarchy in modern times at its best.**

A poignant memorial service was held at the 12th century St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland on 12 Sep, the church where the legendary and fearless **John Knox** pastored and preached in the 16th century (and stood

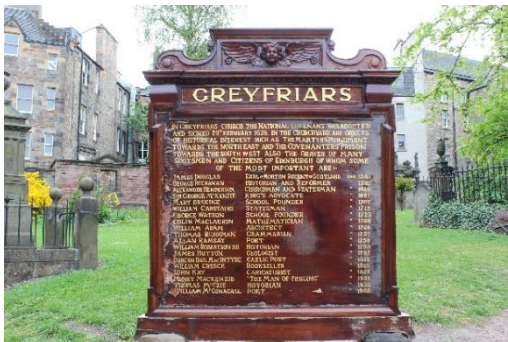


against Mary, Queen of Scots) and brought a life-changing Reformation in Scotland culminating in the inception of Presbyterianism in the Kirk by the sovereign will of God. The royal funeral to be attended by prelates and dignitaries from all over the world will be held on 19 Sep at the historic 11th century Westminster Abbey.

The late Queen has been succeeded by her son, King Charles III who acceded to the throne on 13 Sep to be the new King of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. **We echo the fervent plea that God be gracious and merciful to save the King (and to revive the people of England) as He did with the Queen, that he will reign well in the fear of the Almighty God following the footsteps of his dear mother.**

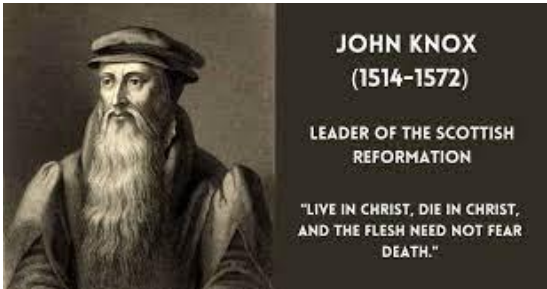
A Sombre History of Scotland Respected

During the accession to the throne on 12 Sep 2022, King Charles III vowed to protect the Church of Scotland. The reason is rooted in church history about 400 years ago. There was something important that happened there in St Giles Cathedral in 1637. Scotland and England have the same monarch since 1603, though they were managed politically in different



government. In 1637 King Charles I decided to bring the Scottish church (which is Presbyterian) under the influence of the Church of England (which is Anglican). The Scottish church opposed this vehemently as it culminated in Charles I who tried to impose the Anglican prayer book on the church at St Giles'

cathedral. A riot started as led by a Jenny Geddes who stood against it and supported by others that led to the formation of the Covenanters. The War of the 3 Kingdoms concluded in the signing of the National Covenant in 1638 at Greyfriars Kirk which guaranteed the religious freedom and independence of the Church of Scotland. **The National Covenant signing was led by Alexander Henderson of the Scottish church to warrant the religious liberty and the teachings of the Reformed faith of the church of Scotland as they also pledged allegiance to the King as well and this was confirmed in 1641.** The church of Scotland held its grounds against King Charles 1 notwithstanding with the loss of many lives.

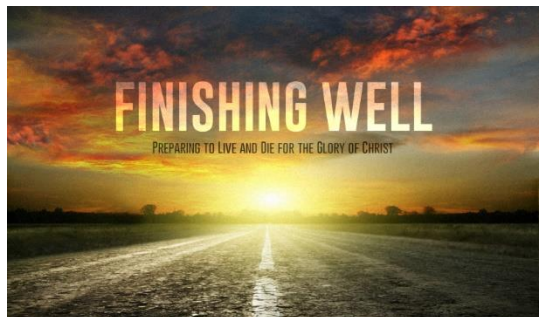


The new monarch of Great Britain will have to assure the Scottish church that the Presbyterian polity of church governance will be respected, and they will be independent from the State ecclesiastical influence.

John Knox's Reformation of Scotland under the Sovereign will of the King of kings was not in vain. (Dan 4:34,35)

How to End Well in Life

Death is but a door and departure to somewhere better for the believer. Paul was able to say in 2 Tim 4:6-8, *For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.* In another sense, when a believer leaves this world in physical death, he will also enter into everlasting life with God in heaven. Our Lord Jesus reminded us in John 11:24,25, *Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:*



Believest thou this? As Paul correctly says, absent from the body, is to be present with the Lord (2 Cor 5:8-9).

We should strive to end well on this side of eternity. Consider the following thoughts of meaningful meditation before death for the redeemed: -

1. Remember that God will not forsake us in our grievous agonies.
2. Look upon God as a merciful and faithful Father and trust His infinite goodness.
3. Meditate continually upon the **atoning death** and sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ and trust the merits of His vicarious atonement on the Cross.
4. Meditate often upon the Lord Jesus Christ in His substitutionary death for us.
5. Meditate on the **victorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ** over death and hell.
6. Meditate on the **ascension of Jesus Christ** into heaven and His sitting at the right hand of God.
7. Meditate on our inseparable union with Jesus Christ by His Holy Spirit and the fruits of His blessed immortality upon us.
8. Consider that death delivers us from all temporal evils that we daily suffer.
9. Consider that death delivers us from sin, into a life of victory in the heavenlies and from the remains of our corruption.
10. Meditate on the **glory and happiness of our souls** at their departure out of the body one day.
11. Meditate on the **resurrection of our bodies** one day to be reunited with our soul.
12. Meditate on the **destruction of death** and the eternal and most blessed life, which we shall enjoy both in soul and body after our resurrection with the saints.

(adapted from Herbert Lockyer, Last Words of Saints & Sinners, 2000).

Bishop Ken, the author of the *Doxology*, has taught us to sing even in life or death:

**Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed
Teach me to die, that so I may
Rise glorious at the Judgment Day.**

Solace and Consolation for the Bereaved



In a Christian funeral, there is a sense of hope, comfort and peace for the bereaved family unlike the unregenerate dead. Though there is short-term pain and grief, yet we have the everlasting consolation of the Holy Spirit that is stronger than any temporal loss. Ps 116:15 says, *Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints* and Rev 14:13, *And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,*

Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. Because of the resurrection of Christ, we who are in Christ too have the blessed hope and expectation of the resurrection of our bodies to be reunited with our spirit one day. 1 Cor 15:57 says, *But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Therefore, be not afraid of death, **but be courageous to rejoice and trust in the Lord when the day of death approaches. We are to be always ready to leave this world to be with Christ eternally any time (2 Cor 5:7-9). Christ is the only Way to eternal life and there is none other.**

Conclusion

Queen Elizabeth had left an indelible mark in history after almost a century of her life. The inevitable demise of both Princesses and paupers reminded us of the frailty of life and the nearness of eternity. We live in deeply uncertain and troubled world today of manifold pestilences, wars and disasters In these last days. Have you written your epitaph or chosen your funeral verse and funeral hymns and ready to meet your God? It is never too early for we do not know the day of our death. We have witnessed the deaths of many in this recent pandemic and our lives are in the hands of our Almighty God.

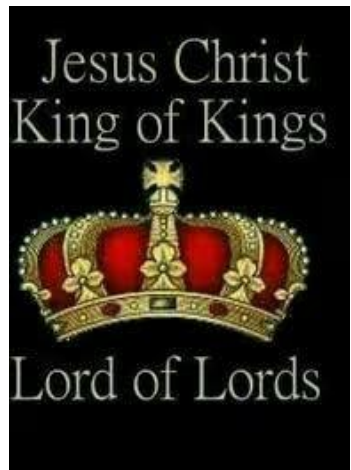


Our lives are like a vapour that can vanish away for we live in perilous days. We need to number our days and apply our hearts unto wisdom and to redeem the time for the days are evil. **We need to pray and learn to inhabit the future not just the present. The Word of God has spiritual comfort and solace that strengthen the bereaved family of the deceased as they seek Him in their earthly journey. Are you ready for heaven or the absence of it?** It is a joy when our earthly journey comes to an end and to be with the Lord forever where there is no more sorrow, death, pain or tears but eternal bliss with the saints forevermore. May the God of the living give us the blessed readiness and the sense of **relief and solace to the dying and the bereaved family as we look up to Christ, the only Saviour in faith and repentance who is our God to complete this race of life in due course and finish it triumphantly by the grace of God.**

Rom 14:7,8 *For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.*

Let us live well by knowing, loving and serving the Lord that we may end well and leave this world victoriously one day to meet our glorious Monarch when our time is up. He is our only Hope and Refuge for eternity

Jack Sin



SEEKING RECONCILIATION WITH GOD

25 September 2022, Sunday 10:00 am

Speaker: Rev Dr Jack Sin.



Come and find out - "How"

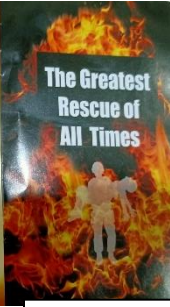
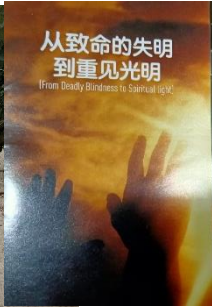
VENUE:

Sovereign Hope BPC
160, Paya Lebar Rd, 04-06,
Orion@Paya Lebar, S (409022)

Those interested to come please contact Dn Yue Kay at 97450311



John giving a Gideon Bible.



Our newly printed bilingual gospel tracts for evangelism.



Our latest gospel tract given to a cleaner.

The children at the Home in Kampot, Cambodia, received their Khmer Bibles from the designated offering brought by the SHBPC mission team.



A blessed reunion with 88-year-old Barbara Schultz from Esperance, Western Australia, who joined us for Sunday Worship on 11 Sep.



Pastor Chanton preaching at the First Bible-Presbyterian Church of Siem Reap, Cambodia

Memory Verse

1 Pet 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks this morning on “**Sober and Vigilant Stand Against Evil**” (1 **Pet 5:8-14**), the quarterly series on **Godly Counsel for Pilgrims and Strangers (studies in 1Peter)**.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**Seeking Reconciliation with God**” (2 Cor **5:11-21**).**Bring a friend to hear the gospel of everlasting life**
4. The following Sunday School classes continue after worship service:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
 - Addressing Objections to the Gospel – Joseph Wee
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a video study on Fundamentals of Theology on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
6. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
7. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 7 Oct 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
8. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
9. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**
