

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray for Pr. Zhang Lifeng as he prepares to speak on Sunday (22 September) from 2 Peter 3:8-13. [Message title](#): "Knowing the Just & Merciful God". Service will be livestreamed at bit.ly/gracebpsersmons at 9:30 am.

Pray for Rev Tan Eng Boo. He will be speaking at the Mandarin Service today at 11:30 am.

Session Meeting will be held today, 15 September at 1:30 pm.

Evangelism & Missions. Outreach at the Airport. Next outreach session will be held on 22 September at 2:30 pm, T3 Departure Hall.

AF Meeting. Saturday, 28 September at 5 pm in Church. Speaker: Rev Mark Tay. [Message Title](#): "Do Good for Jesus." (Galatians 6:9)

Mandarin Service is collecting clothes and blankets for Myanmar refugees. Collection will stop by end of September. Please contact Jenny Chin for more details.

Sunday Church Prayer Time. 29 September. Gracians are encouraged to come and pray for our church and for one another.

Extraordinary Congregational Meeting. for Session Election /Re-Election, 13 October 2024. Time: 11:15 am.

Flower Contribution slots are available on 22 September, 6, 20 & 27 October.

Refreshment Contribution slots are available on 22, 29 September, 6, 13 & 20 October.

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

Speaker	Pr. Zhang Lifeng
Worship Leader	Dn David Leong
Musicians	Lim Sue San, Cheryl Chiu
Scripture Reader	Carol Lee
AV Ministry	Joshua Lim, Melinda Poh
Ushers	Augustine Tham, Elsie Chan
Chrysalis 3 & 2	Lee Min Sen, Chen Ching Huey
Chrysalis 1	Hannah Yeo
Flowers	-
Refreshments	-
Prayer Meeting Devotion	Catherine Ng

LAST WEEK'S GIVINGS

Offerings \$ 1,281.00
Tithes \$ 2,566.00

QR code for tithes & offerings (Please indicate "Tithe" or "Offering" under Reference no. /description) UEN no. 86SS0055HGEN



LET US PRAY

Join us in praying for the church and the world via Zoom. Please contact Rev Tan at 9784 2761 for Zoom meeting ID and password. You may also email us your prayer items at prayer@gracebpc.org.sg

MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD

His Provision

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:32 ESV

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Moderator

Elder Victor Goh 9682 2281
Victor_Goh@gracebpc.org.sg

Co-Moderator

Elder Seah Soon Huat 9835 2178
Soon_Huat_Seah@gracebpc.org.sg

Honorary Pastor (Mandarin Service)

Rev Lee Fatt Ping 9668 1549
Fatt_Ping_Lee@gracebpc.org.sg

Pastor (Mentoring)

Rev Tan Eng Boo 9784 2761
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Grace Bible Presbyterian Church



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Speaker

Dn Lim Chien Chong

Worship

Dn Chea Oei Kiang

Musicians

Adrian Teo

Cheryl Chiu

Scripture Reader

Magdalene Wong

AV Ministry

Dn Daniel Tan

Ushers

Tan Teck Shi

Stafan Ong

Chrysalis 3 & 2

Lim Sue San

Chen Ching Huey

Chrysalis 1

Hannah Yeo

Flowers

Richard Tan

Tan Gim Choon

Refreshments

Richard Tan

Tan Gim Choon

OUR MISSION

To bring people to salvation in Jesus Christ and disciple them in their relationship with Christ.

OUR VISION

To be a church that is passionate about God, transformed by the Word, authentic in relationship, and bold in witness.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Opening Song

MH52 Thine Be the Glory

Opening Prayer

Worship in Song

Only A Holy God
Christ Our Wisdom

Responsive Reading

Psalms 104:19-24

Giving and Thanksgiving

Thanks to God

Doxology

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 4:23-26; Nahum 1:2-8 (ESV)

Pre-Sermon Song

In Christ Alone

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Knowing the Jealous and Angry God

Closing Song

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Month of September Preaching Schedule

1 Sep "The Coming Peace & Prosperity of Zion." (Zc. 8:1-8).
8 Sep "Knowing the All Wise & All Powerful God." (Rm. 11:33-36)
15 Sep "Knowing the Jealous & Angry God." (De. 4:23-26; Na. 1:2-8)
22 Sep "Knowing the Just & Merciful God." (2 Pe. 3:8-13)
29 Sep "Knowing the Sovereign God. (& our human responsibility) Ge. 50:15-21)

Sunday Worship & Activities

9.30am Main Service

10.00am Junior Worship
(7-12 yrs old)

11.30am Bible Classes

HOW COULD GOD BE JEALOUS?

by John Piper

God Is Jealous

Now it's true. It's just plain, straight-up, on-the-face-of-it true that God commands our affections, that they be entirely his. Jesus said that the first and great commandment is to love the Lord your God. "You shall [it's a command] love the Lord your God with all your heart (Matthew 22:37). All of it. "With all your heart," God demands that we love him. "Don't give any of your affections that belong to God to anyone else," he's saying. Or the way the Old Testament put it in Exodus 34:14: "You shall worship" — that is, treasure, reverence, admire, esteem, praise, love, delight in — "no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."

In other words, God demands that you and I give him all our worship, all our allegiance, all our affection. Nothing is to be loved more. Jesus said, "Whoever loves father or mother . . . [or] son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:37). So Jesus is demanding all of our supreme affections and allegiance for himself. If we give any of our worship to another, God is jealous, because it belongs to him. And if we don't repent, he will break forth in wrath. "For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God" (Deuteronomy 4:24).

Now, why do sinners — that's all of us, unless the Lord breaks our hearts and causes us to be born again — bristle at this?

Sin does not like that for at least two reasons. First, we don't like being told what to do — period. And the second reason is that sin does not find its greatest pleasure in God. So we don't want to be told what to do, and we certainly can't be told to find our greatest pleasure in God because we don't have our greatest pleasure in God. That's the very meaning of sin. And so, the way we justify our resistance, both to God's authority and to our finding all satisfaction in him, is by finding fault with his jealousy.

Jealous for His Bride

But suppose that God does have a right to tell us what to do because he made us, he owns us, and he's the only person in the universe who knows everything, and is infinitely wise and infinitely good, and knows what's best for us. And suppose he is the greatest good in the universe, and he is the greatest joy, and he is the all-satisfying pleasure. Suppose all that's true — which it is. Then how would we think about God's jealousy?

Maybe we would think biblically like this. God looked at fallen, sinful, rebellious humanity, and in his immeasurable grace, he decided to call out a people for his own possession. And the way he would relate to these people is as a loving husband to a beautiful wife. She would find her joy in his greatness and wisdom and strength and love and care and protection, and he would rejoice over her and protect her and provide everything for her that she needs to find her fullest joy in his presence.

Married

So that's what he did; that's what God did. In the Old Testament, it's described like this in Hosea 2:19–20. This is God talking to his people: "I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you will know the Lord."

in the New Testament, the church — God's people, God's chosen people, his own special possession — is described as Christ's bride, his wife. "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her . . . so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:25, 27). In other words, Christ aims to have a beautiful wife, and he died for this.

Unfaithful

What happens, then, if the church, the bride, starts drifting into a love affair with the world? What happens? And here's the way James describes that happening: "You adulteresses!" Now, that's very significant, because not all the translations get the fact that it's a feminine word. It's not "adulterers"; it's not "adulterous generation"; it's "adulteresses" because it's treating the church as the wife of God. "You adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world" — in other words, a love affair, a paramour affair with the world — "is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend [a lover, a paramour] of the world makes himself an enemy of God." He turns God into a cuckold.

Jealous for Our Joy

The jealousy of God is the measure of his zeal for our happiness in him. His anger at our spiritual adultery, at our having other lovers besides him, is a reflex both of his zeal for his own worth, but also of his zeal for our joy. If we turn away from him as the greatest treasure, we turn away from our own greatest pleasure.

John Piper is founder and teacher of desiringGod.org and chancellor of Bethlehem College & Seminary. For more than thirty years, he served as pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Minneapolis. He is author of more than fifty books, and his sermons, articles, books, and more are available free of charge at desiringGod.org.

Excerpts taken from "How Could God Be Jealous?" by John Piper. © Desiring God Foundation. Source: desiringGod.org

Knowing the Jealous & Angry God

Deuteronomy 4:23-26, Nahum 1:2-8

1. In The Law & Prophets

How is God jealous & angry?

Exod 34:14, Deut 4:23-26,
Nah 1:2-3, Zech 8:2

2. In The Gospels

How does Jesus reveal God's jealousy & anger?

Luke 19:45-46, John 2:19

3. In The Epistles

As imitators of God, should we, as His children, be jealous & angry like Him?

2 Cor 11:2, Eph 4:26-27,
1 Cor 3:3, Gal 5:19-21, Jas 1:19-20

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

- i. Give example of how humans differ from God in jealousy & anger.
- ii. The wrath of God is also taught in the New Testament. From Rom 1:18-32, what do we learn about the display of His wrath?
- iii. Christians sometimes mention "righteous anger". How can anger be righteous?
- iv. "Jealous" can also be translated as "zealous". Why is Christian zeal lacking in church and how can it be rekindled?

Dn Lim Chien Chong
15 September 2024