



1/2 February 2020
Vol. 42, No. 5

The Lord Jesus Christ: The Last Word from God

Hebrews 1:1-4

English Services

(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)


Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Worship through Fellowship
Scripture Reading
Worship in the Word
Pastor Larry Pabiona
Prayer of Confession
The Lord's Supper
Worship through Giving
Response Song
Benediction

Filipino Service

(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda
Tawag sa Pagsamba
Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor BJ Sebastian
Panalangin ng Pagsisisi
Banal na Hapunan
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Tugon na Awit
Bendisyon

*See inset inside for the **Traditional Service (Sat., 6 p.m.)** program.*



The Lord Jesus Christ: The Last Word from God

Today's Message (1/2 February 2020) /
Hebrews 1:1-4

A PERSON WHO
WISHES TO
HEAR GOD'S
VOICE MUST
NOW LOOK TO
THE SON, WHO
IS THE "EXACT
IMPRINT" OF
GOD'S VERY
BEING.

Often, when we want to know God's will, we become confused. In the Old Testament, it seemed so simple. When special guidance was needed, God sent a prophet, authenticated by miracles. Now, however, just like the Hebrew Christians felt, though we have a written Word, the voice of God is less audibly heard. This is why the writer of Hebrews made one thing very clear: in Christ we have an even greater revelation than from Moses and the prophets. And, through a relationship with Jesus, we have access to the very voice of the living God.

THE PAST WAY OF GOD REACHING US: BY THE PROPHETS

- "At many times": At different intervals all throughout Old Testament history.
- "In many ways": By angels, dreams, visions, miracles, nature, even donkeys. These were recorded by people divinely appointed by God – "the prophets".

Traditional Service

February 1 (Sat.), 6 p.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Fellowship

Worship through Giving

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading


Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

Prayer of Confession

The Lord's Supper

Benediction



The Lord Jesus Christ: The Last Word from God

Today's Message (1/2 February 2020) /
Hebrews 1:1-4

THE PRESENT WAY OF GOD REACHING US: BY HIS SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

- “In these last days”: The days where we await the second coming of Christ are the last days. That is our present time, our era.
- Who then, is the Lord Jesus Christ? He is
 1. The heir of all things (*Psalms 2:8-9, 89:27; Romans 11:36; Colossians 1:16*)
 2. The One through whom God created the world (*John 1:1-3*)
 3. The radiance of God's glory (*John 8:12; 2 Corinthians 4:4,6*)
 4. The exact imprint of God's nature (*John 14:9; Colossians 1:15; 2:9*)
 5. He upholds the universe by His power (*Colossians 1:17*)
 6. He made purification for sins (*Titus 2:14; Revelation 1:5*)
 7. He sat down (the posture of accomplishment) at the right hand of God (the position of power) (*Romans 8:34; 1 Peter 3:22*)
 8. He inherited a Name more excellent than the angels, and is therefore far superior to them (*Philippians 2:9–11*)

FINAL THOUGHTS

A person who wishes to hear God's voice must now look to the Son, who is the “exact imprint” of God's very being. God said the first word in Creation (“Let there be...”), and still has the Last Word in history. That last word has a Name: Jesus.

This is the same Jesus born of a virgin, who lived a sinless, perfect life, and died a cruel, unjust death for our sins, then rose again. This is the same Jesus whose suffering and death we remember at the Lord's Table, and whose return we anticipate as participate in this commemoration ■

NEW COMMUNION SUNDAY SERIES

We begin today a new series, for the first Sundays of each month only (Communion Sunday), a devotional study of the Book of Hebrews entitled “The Supremacy of Christ and Christianity.”

Many Christians face pressures to return to their old beliefs and lifestyles. Family, friends, or just the old nature may pull them back toward living as they did before they met Christ. To correct this, Hebrews presents a simple comparison between better and best. Christ is better than any of the old beliefs believers used to hold. His redemption is not only better, it is the only real salvation in the world. His forgiveness is perfect and eternal. Who would not follow the best and choose Christ over what the world has to offer?

But the author was also aware that when a Christian chooses Christ as the only Redeemer, he also chooses to participate in Christ's sufferings. And when a Christian is suffering for Christ, it is tempting to end the pain by ending what caused it—the witness for Christ. The supremacy of Christ on the basis of the Scriptures is one argument for persevering. The other argument is more personal, and that is how to make faith, that hard-to-grasp action, more solid and visible. The writer of Hebrews used believers from the past to illustrate how God's invisible word had the power to move ordinary people to live obedient and even sacrificial lives.

Hebrews meets the need for a doctrinal presentation upholding Christ as the only supreme Redeemer. At the same time, it seeks to deepen inner convictions so that

believers will move from an intellectual assent that the doctrine is true, to a committed lifestyle that can weather persecution and hostility.

The overall theme of Hebrews is the superiority or preeminence of Christ. He is better than anything that was before. He is better than any Old Testament person. He is better than any Old Testament institution. He is better than any Old Testament ritual. He is better than any Old Testament sacrifice. He is better than anyone and everything else.

WITH MUCH GRATITUDE TO OUR CHRISTMAS DECORATION TEAM

Last week, we reluctantly took down the huge “Singing Christmas Tree” and other décor that made our GCF Christmas so memorable and beautiful. But last time, in thanking the team behind this, I inadvertently omitted a name or two from that dedicated group of selfless individuals who spent so much time and energy (and sometimes their own money) to put them up. So this time, may I just thank you as an entire group on behalf of all of GCF, who were so blessed by your talents and dedication. The Lord knows who you are!

REMINDER ON GCF 42ND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

We'll see you next weekend at one of the following services: Saturday, 5:00 p.m., or Sunday 10:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Our anniversary theme is “Looking to Jesus: The Founder and Perfecter of our Faith.” Please don't miss it, and bring your friends and loved ones along. Maybe bring your enemies too—they might change for the better ■

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



ACTIVE FAMILY DISCIPLING

February seminar of #ParentsTalk, a year-long midweek series on parenting

Speaker: Pastor Lloyd Estrada
February 5 (Wed), 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Open to everyone.



GCF 42nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Please take note of service schedules:
February 8 (Sat), 5:00 p.m.
February 9 (Sun), 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
(two services only on Sunday)



ANCHORED IN GOD'S WORD: JOY WOMEN IN ACTION FOR GOD'S GLORY

Joy Women Fellowship 42nd Anniversary
February 11 (Tue), 9:00 a.m., at Auditorium B
Speakers: Atty. Winnie and Ms. Maloi Salumbides. Free to attend but pre-registration required. Contact 0995 913 6078 to pre-reg.



BLOOMING FOR GOD IN THE GARDEN OF WIDOWHOOD

Naomi Women 5th Anniversary
February 22 (Sat), 9 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall
Speaker: Pastor Larry Pabiona
Testimony: Mrs. Vilma Joson
For those who will attend, please dress in a way that will make you "bloom".



WEDDING NINONGS & NINANGS FELLOWSHIP

Inviting all wedding godparents to explore how you can serve in this unique oikos relationship
Feb 23 (Sun), 12-3 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall
Please register at the ministry information booth. For details, contact 0917 532 7713.

Interested in giving for our weekly pulpit flower decoration?

Please call 8632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

DISCIPLE-MAKING EVENTS

Growth Group Express (GGEx)

Mixed group
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B124 (GG Center)

Sunflowers Growth Group

Group for women
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B506

Burning Hearts Chronicles Growth Group

Group for couples
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon
Rm. B123

Jars of Clay Growth Group

Group for women
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B512

For those interested in joining any of the groups above, please text or call us at 0917 779 1549, or fill-out the tear-off form and give to the ushers or drop in one of the offering bags/boxes.

YOUTH **LiVE** SERVICE

Every Saturday, for high school and college students
5:00 p.m. at Auditorium A
Y-groups meet after the service

YOUTH **LiVE** PRAYER HUDDLE

Every Friday
7:00 p.m. at the Youth Center

DMG Leaders' Assembly

Topic: Missions Education
February 29 (Sat), 4-6 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / January 2020

JANUARY	Projected	Rcvd., Jan. 1-28	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of Jan. 28
General Funds	9,073,774	7,874,597	General Funds	9,073,774	7,874,597
Mission Support Fund	1,121,081	708,418	Mission Support Fund	1,121,081	708,418
Others (Designated, etc.)	841,254	1,859,758	Others (Designated, etc.)	841,254	1,859,758
TOTAL	11,036,109	10,442,773	TOTAL	11,036,109	10,442,773

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved.”

—Matthew 9:17, NLT

The teachings of the Pharisees and experts of the Law were not at all bad. Such religious devotion was a response to their people’s history of being conquered and exiled. It was an expression of a small nation struggling to preserve their history and identity by holding on to what the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob has promised—that they will be blessed and be a blessing to the nations.

But as time went by, such religious devotion turned into cosmetic piety. Their faithfulness was merely marked by fulfilling religious duties for self-interest and self-preservation. It dulled their compassion towards the powerless and needy. They resorted to shallow charity with restrictions so as not to break the Law at the expense of another who needs attention and help. The Law became for them a chain that withholds them from becoming blessings to others.

Central to the life and person of Jesus is the coming of the kingdom of God. It is mostly the subject of many of His

parables and teachings, and it is the main theme of the best-known prayer, the Lord’s Prayer: “Thy kingdom come.”

Like all other metaphors and symbols, the Kingdom of God has more than one meaning in the message of Jesus. It points to God’s power active in Jesus’ work as a healer and exorcist; it also refers to the presence of God; in other texts, it indicates a community, to a kingdom at the end of history where all people will gather at the great banquet of God.

But all-in-all the kingdom of God speaks of His redemptive passion to heal and set the world aright. It echoes back to God’s promise of blessing to Abraham, and has fully manifested in the life and person of Jesus.

The Pharisees and teachers of the Law had their hearts hardened by their shallow devotion. So when Jesus came into the picture, it became hard for them to grasp what Jesus is doing—both a confrontation and an invitation. He confronted the status quo (old wineskin) that has become dismissive of the weak and needy, a system that is not in line with the kingdom of God but looks much like the exploitative empire of Rome. But he also invited the religious into the kingdom of God (new wineskin), to receive the wine that brings blessing, healing and rejoicing, embracing the both the marginalized poor and the jaded rich ■

PRAYER

at the Chapel

The GCF Hour of Prayer

Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.

Midweek Prayer Service

Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Weeknight Prayer Gatherings

Except Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.

ON THE COVER: "He upholds the universe by the word of his power."—Hebrews 1:3 (Composite of the Orion nebula by Brian Goff at unsplash.com).



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

☎ (02) 8632 1354 to 56, (02) 8635 0082 to 83

☎ Fax No. (02) 8632 1357, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

✉ email@gcf.org.ph 🌐 gcf.org.ph 📱 Greenhills Christian Fellowship

How may we SERVE YOU BETTER?

Fill-out this tear off form and drop it in an offering bag/box or at the Ministry Information Booth.

Please check all that is applicable:

- I am a first-time guest.
- I prayed to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord for the first time today.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I am interested in becoming a member of this church.
- I want to join a Growth Group.**
(Specify age group: _____)
(Specify group composition: _____)
- I want to start a Growth Group.
- I want to host a Growth Group.

Name: _____

Age: ____ Landline no.: _____

Mobile no.: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Date: **1/2 February 2020**

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

Consent to use your information:

By affixing your signature below, you give permission to Greenhills Christian Fellowship to store and use the information you provided above for the sole purpose of contacting you and updating you about any inquiry you have made.

Your signature

God's Way to Heaven

THE GOSPEL

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

God is holy and righteous: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isaiah 6:3). **He requires holiness of us as well:** "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16).

THE TRUTH ABOUT MAN

Man is sinful: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
Sin demands a penalty: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

Christ is the expression of God's love for us: "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). **Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them" (2 Corinthians 5:18).

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

PRAYER: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross in my place, to save me from my sins, and I accept you as my Savior, and the Master of my life forever. Amen.

Need someone to talk to?

Visit the Emmaus Road Counseling Center at the GCF Mezzanine floor or contact 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80 or 0917 532 7794 for inquiries.

For hospital or house visitation, dedication service, or funeral service requests, please call or text 0917 532 7794.