

## **Consider Christ who endured the Cross**

*Elder Koh Yeok Soon*

### **The Universe**

With much time at home during the COVID-19 Circuit Breaker, I took the opportunity to research online about the universe; something which I had wanted to do for a long time. I learnt more about the vastness of the universe and its complexity yet orderliness. Often, the information moved me in awe of God our Creator. Oh, what an awesome and incomprehensible Creator He is!

### **The Schindler's List**

One night in mid-August 2020, while looking through Facebook, my wife Wai Yee and I came across a YouTube video shared by a friend of a musical performance. I clicked on the link and it brought up a violin accompanied with organ performance, playing the Schindler's List. The video performance reminded us of a short video clip that Pastor Keith showed during one of his sermons in our church – the scene of Oskar Schindler, a German industrialist who saved 1,200 Jews from World War II concentration camps, bidding farewell to his workers before travelling off to surrender to the Americans.

Before retiring for the night, I played the Schindler's List a second time with my eyes closed. I wanted to enter into the emotions of the score. Quite immediately, I saw in my mind the sad photographs of the Holocaust. My heart was solemn and heavy.

### **The Cross**

As the music played on, my thought swiftly moved to Christ on the cross. I thought of His suffering and excruciating pain on the cross. The pain was real,

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*During this unusual time when we cannot come together for worship, we can still be part of a worshipping community. We invite you to join us at our pre-recorded worship service at this website <https://www.cplink.org.sg/>. We hope you can also connect with our Life Groups. Please contact one of our Pastoral Staff if you like to join a Life Group. We are still meeting and connecting through various digital platforms.*

*Welcome!*

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*We want to grow in Christlikeness through devotion and delight in God, nurturing devotion and delight in God, nurturing relationships and intentionally multiplying disciplinarians.*

very intense and something horrible and dreaded (Mt 26:38-39).

*<sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." <sup>39</sup> And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."*

*Matthew 26:38-39 (NASB)*

The thought was so real and immersing that it moved me to cry out, *"Why Lord? Why do You want to go through such dreadful pain and suffering? Why don't You abort the cross? We are not worth it!"*

Knowing that He is the Creator, that nothing is impossible with Him (Jer 32:17), and that He told Moses He could destroy all the Israelites and start a new great nation through Moses' lineage (Ex 32:7-10), I cried, *"Why don't You simply wipe us out and re-create any Earth and mankind and start afresh will do?"*

*'Ah, Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.*

*Jeremiah 32:17 (NKJV)*

*<sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people. <sup>10</sup> Now then let Me alone, that My anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of you a great nation."*

*Exodus 32:9-10 (NASB)*

*"We are not worth Your pain and agony,"* I repeated. By then, I was wailing uncontrollably.

## **The Silence**

He was silent, still on the cross (Isa 53:7). I recalled Christ's prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane and Isaiah 53, where He put His desire aside to do the Father's will and silently suffered the shame, the torture, the agony and the death on the cross for our sake (Mt 26:39 & Isa 53:4-8).

*<sup>6</sup> All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us has turned to his own way;  
But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all  
To fall on Him.*

*<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted,  
Yet He did not open His mouth;  
Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,  
And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,  
So He did not open His mouth.*

*Isaiah 53:6-7 (NASB)*

Then these words spoke into my heart: “**Consider Christ** (who endured such suffering for us).”

*Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

*Hebrews 12:3 (NIV)*

## The Reflection

Upon reflecting on the incident, two lessons came to mind.

1. I saw the importance of guarding what I see, hear, think, and hold in my heart (Gal 6:8, Lk 2:19 & 51). The videos and sermons I saw and heard, the Word of God that I studied and meditated on, and also those that I hold close to my heart, have an impact on me and do re-surface at certain times (Jn 14:26).
2. This incident also encouraged me not to let the current situation make me grow weary and lose heart (Heb 12:3). When I consider Christ and His sufferings, certain things that I once held on to and mattered much to me become less important and dimmer in the light of Christ.

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*Book of Ruth*

# GIVING

**Kindly take note of the separate bank accounts for Tithing and Offering.**

## TITHING



*Please key in your tithing number at the reference section. If you are unsure of or do not a tithing number, you may drop us an email at the church website. under “Request” tab and we will get back to you.*

### INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 025-905375-8

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church - Tith

UEN no. **T12SS0164DTTH**

## OFFERING



*Please key in only the alphabet at the reference section as follows :*

*“E” for English Service  
“C” for Chinese Service  
“SL” for Sri Lankan Service*

### INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 033-016873-0

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church

UEN no. **T12SS0164D**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ **Adult & Child Baptism, Confirmation and Transfer-in** on **25 Dec**. Schedule of membership class will be announced closer to date. Please register at the church office or email to [Hope@cplink.org.sg](mailto:Hope@cplink.org.sg) or [Hazel@cplink.org.sg](mailto:Hazel@cplink.org.sg)

✝ We are pleased to inform that we have collected \$8,400 for the **Harum Bible Translation Project** as of 9 Sept, 2020! On behalf of the Harum Bible Translation Project Team, we would like thank all Covenantors who gave generously to this work.



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## Pastoral Staff

Rev Keith Lai  
Rev Abel Lee  
Rev Dr Henry Wong  
Rev Christina Ong  
Ps Lai Mui Fong  
Pr Chin Yoke Fen  
Pr Lionel Neo  
Ps Susantha

## Sri Lankan Service

Rev Christina Ong / Ps Susantha

## Chinese Service

Rev Abel Lee / Pr Chin Yoke Fen

## CareWorks Community Services

Rev Dr Henry Wong

## Gladiolus Place

Michelle Tan

## Ministry Team Leaders

**Creche**  
Kong Soh Lian

**Children**  
Pr Lionel Neo

## **Youth and Young Adult (YaYA)**

Rev Abel Lee (ad interim)  
Aruneeporn Ng  
Audrey Wong

## **Young Working Adult & Young Married**

Rev Dr Henry Wong

## **Adults & Seniors**

Rev Keith Lai/ Ps Lai Mui Fong

## **Hospitality**

Jenny Ho

**Worship**  
Ryan Kong

## **Missions**

Ho Chung Tat

## **Prayer**

Rev Dr Henry Wong

## **Freedom & Wholeness**

Alfred & Jenny Koay

## **GB / BB**

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## **Chinese Seniors Alpha Course**

Pr Chin Yoke Fen

## **Day Alone with the Lord**

Ps Lai Mui Fong