

...from front page

iii) often hunts at night from the dark of the night where it pounces much more effectively; thus all these characteristics result in a high rate of kill for the lion.

Thus it would be crazily careless for believers to treat the lion like a "kitty kitty cat". It sounds foolish but I must admit I have done that myself a few times and if not for the mercy of God for sure would have been eaten. This is why Peter give a double admonishment here "Be sober, be vigilant". Sober as in carefully evaluate, consider and weigh out and not to take things lightly. Vigilant as being alert, watchful and standing guard.

## 2. Resist him

This brings me to my next point. I want to tell you a secret about this lion. It merely eats and can only eat what it is allowed or given to it. If you resist him he will flee from you. "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7). It can only bite you if you allow it!!

The problem is that I have been so silly at times that I have offered my finger to this "kitty kitty cat" only to discover that it has bitten off my hand and I only managed to escape by the deliverance of my Lord and Saviour. Looking back it was stupid of me to expect and assume that this lion will only take my fingers and leave me my hand and arm and not consume the whole of me. Many victims of the lion have toyed with him and are now symbolically walking around headless and handless.

## Conclusion

The devil is a roaring lion, not a "kitty kitty cat" and it can only bite you if you let it. Don't offer it anything as it may not stop at only your fingers. At the end of the age, God the Almighty will reveal how great He truly is and how small the devil actually is. His Glory will be revealed and the devil will be exposed. Then kings and princes and mighty men of the earth will shake their heads in disbelief when they discover how they have been deceived and troubled by so small a creature just like a mosquito that bites when you let it when you are not aware of it and not guard against it. Submit to God and put on the Holy Spirit as the Greatest Shield and Repellent to resist it.

~ A Member's Contribution ~

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Congratulations to Chris & Chloe on the arrival of their second daughter LISA CHEN ZHI ERN**



• **Ps David Swan's ministry in Canada: Toronto - 17 Aug and Vancouver - 24 Aug**

## COMING EVENT

9 to 12 October  
Feast of Tabernacles

Speakers:

Ruth Webb, Arlene Valentyn,  
Merrilyn Billing, David Swan



11 October SATURDAY  
Ladies Hi-Tea Meeting  
with Sandy Gray

## CONTACT US

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**WORSHIP GOD, grow in HIS WORD,  
abound in good WORKS, and WIN the lost.**

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

WEDNESDAY	SUNDAY
10.00 am   Chinese Senior Care Group (fortnightly)	Chinese Worship Service   8.15 am Chinese Children Church   8.15 am
8.00 pm   Intercessors Night	English Worship Service   10.15 am English Children Church   10.15 am
FRIDAY	Eagle-Lion Bible School   1.30 pm Young Adults College Group   1.30 pm (1st Sunday of the month)
8.00 pm   Care Covenant Group (fortnightly)	Psalmist Coffee House   7.30 pm (1st Sunday of the month)
SATURDAY	
2.30 pm   Youth Alive	

# TABERNACLE OF DAVID

Bulletin | Aug 2014



**Roaring Lion,  
Seeking Whom  
He May Devour**

I would like to repeat and expand on some of the thoughts I shared with the Youth Alive recently when we started the series on Spiritual Warfare.

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. (1 Peter 5:8-9)*

## 1. Don't underestimate the lion

Firstly it would be crazily careless if we are to underestimate the devil, the enemy of our soul. Here in 1 Peter 5 verse 8 he is portrayed as a roaring lion.

The lion is commonly accepted as the king of the beast. Maybe it is regarded as king due to its predatory skills thus it is to be respected where

- i) it carefully selects its prey or victim where it will sniff out and attack the weakest and most vulnerable;
- ii) it often hunts in a pack thus resulting in a multiple or continuous attack on its prey; and

*continued...*

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## Judas' Failure

Excerpts from  
"The Davidic Generation"  
by David Swan



Judas' failure was tragic and detestable. For approximately three and a half years, he walked, ate, stayed and talked with the Master, yet he never developed a personal relationship with Him. Judas had the enviable privilege of receiving the most profound teachings; hearing the most anointed sermons; and witnessing some of the most powerful miracles of Jesus. He also saw the deep compassion of Jesus and His many magnanimous acts. He was with Jesus! Yet, through it all, he remained a spectator. Judas' unwillingness and neglect in building a sincere relationship with Jesus, was his fatal failure.

Judas had no sincere desire to relate to Jesus. He merely took advantage of his association with Him for personal gain. He stole from the money bag. When the time came for his relationship with Jesus to be tested (as all relationships with Him will be tested), Judas' pretension and his weak relationship with the Lord was finally exposed. Judas committed the heinous act of betrayal.

As seen in the case of Judas, staying together with someone for a long time is no guarantee that a relationship would develop. **Similarly, a person may attend church services for years, hear hundreds of sermon, tithe faithfully and yet miss the most crucial matter, that is, developing a personal relationship with the Lord.** It is sad that there are many such people. When faced with pressures, tests, and temptations, they succumb easily. They do not have the special strength and

conviction that come from personal and constant communion with God. Each of us must give priority to developing and establishing a personal relationship with the Lord, lest we fail the tests and temptations that come our way and end up like Judas.

Building a personal and growing relationship with God is most important. It is pivotal to our living and relating to all other people or things in our lives. A strong and personal relationship is based upon loyal commitment, it grows through communication and is nurtured by love. God seeks for us to have such a strong and personal relationship with Him – the covenant kind of relationship. We ought to develop covenant relationship with God, with our spouse and with the members in the Body of Christ.



# Take Root Downward

(Isaiah 37:31)

It was one of those rare KL afternoon thunderstorms with gale-force winds. The aftermath revealed blown roofs, overturned dustbins, strewn street debris and uprooted trees. Quite memorable among the uprooted trees was an *angsana* tree, a huge previously towering shady tree at a height of 60 feet (about 5 storeys) with a trunk 5 feet in diameter.

Now lying defeated and forlorn on its side, its root structure revealed only a mere 10 feet in depth! It was top heavy and when the storm hit, its shallow weakened roots could not fight the increasing strain of the winds' building pressure.



The uprooted tree immediately reminded me of the wise words Jesus declared in Matthew 7:24-27 : *"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not*

*fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."*

The fallen tree was an attracting spectacle to many. Revealed was the apparent reason for its fall – once hidden under the ground, its shallow roots were now seen by all! Its weakness, once invisible, was now exposed! And great was its fall. The pitiful end of a once majestic giant.

Paul further reinforced on our roots by encouraging in 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 : *Let each one take heed how he builds on the foundation. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become*

*clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."*

Our roots must be in the foundation that is Jesus Christ. Col 2:7-8 adds *"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, **rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith** as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."*

**The roots, the rock, the foundation, Jesus Christ, the faith. Are our roots dug deep into the rich soil of our faith? And where does faith come from? From what is heard and what is heard comes through the word of Christ (Rom 10:17). Do we feed regularly on the Bible, the Word of Christ? There is an apt warning in Isa 7:9 "If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all". So stand firm in your faith when the winds of life blow in your direction with your roots deeply entrenched in God. And having done everything, stand FIRM!**

~ Another Member's Contribution ~