



It is our desire to equip each generation to:
Celebrate the King, Become like Christ, and Connect the Lost

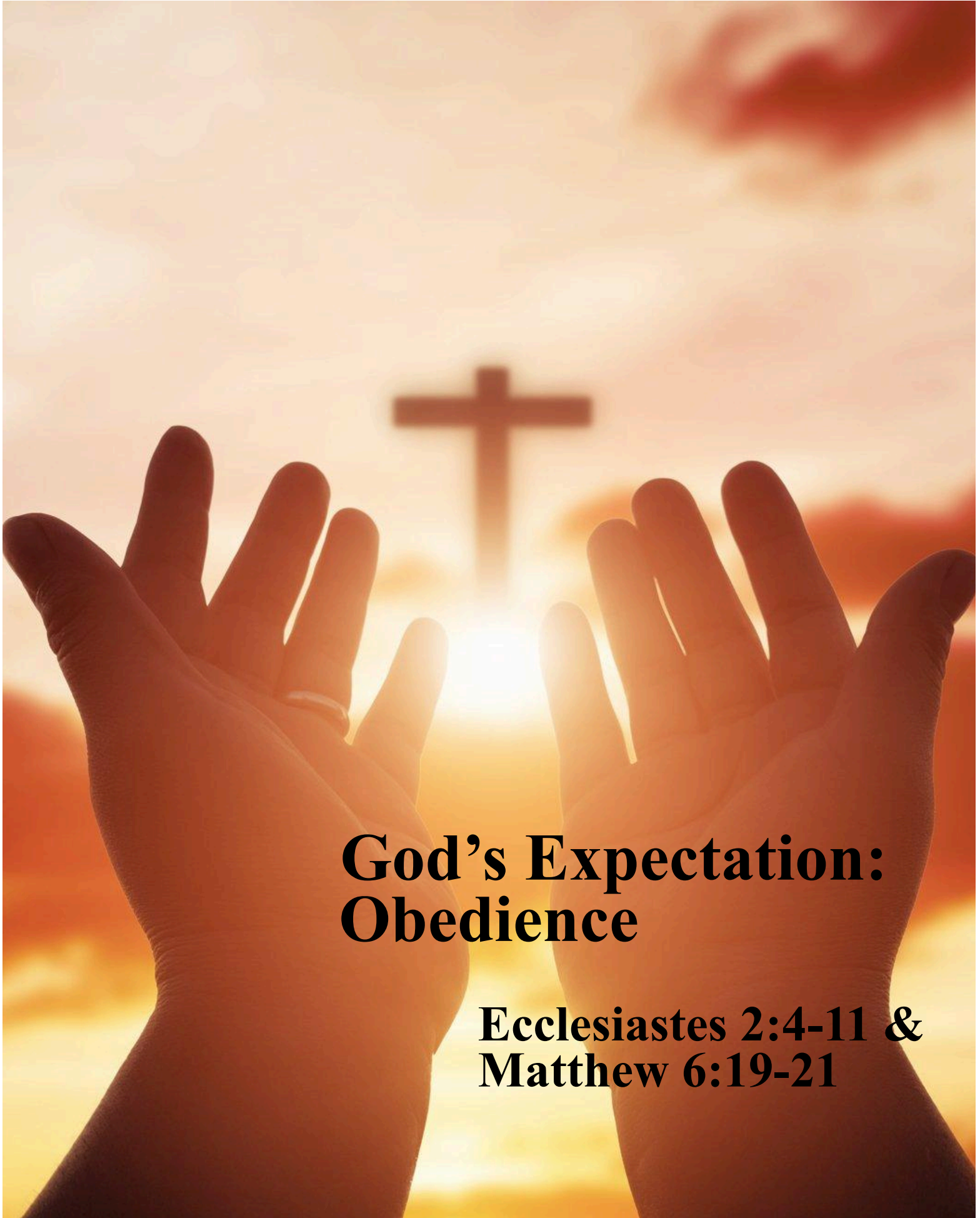
CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH

900 BROGDEN RD. HOUSTON, TX 77024

CBCHOUSTON.ORG

713.461.0963

Oct 6, 2024



God's Expectation: Obedience

**Ecclesiastes 2:4-11 &
Matthew 6:19-21**

Oct 6, 2024

Welcome to CBC

We are excited for you to join us in worship today. Our prayer is that through the singing of gospel truths, hearing the scriptures proclaimed, and being around the saints, you will leave edified and equipped to live on mission with God for His glory.

Preparation	Romans 11:33-36 (CSB)
Welcome	Ray Yu
Adoration	Great Things Come Thou Fount Come Thou King More Like Jesus
Prayer	Irene Chen
Scripture Reading	Ecclesiastes 2:4-11 & Matthew 6:19-21 (CSB) William Gaw
Proclamation	God's Expectation: Obedience Pastor Donald Gardner
Response	Take My Life And Let It Be
Lord's Supper	Pastor Donald Gardner
Offertory Prayer	William Gaw
Announcements	Rochelle Dy
Benediction	Pastor Donald Gardner



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Ecclesiastes 2:4-11 (CSB)

4 I increased my achievements. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. **5** I made gardens and parks for myself and planted every kind of fruit tree in them. **6** I constructed reservoirs for myself from which to irrigate a grove of flourishing trees. **7** I acquired male and female servants and had slaves who were born in my house. I also owned livestock—large herds and flocks—more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. **8** I also amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I gathered male and female singers for myself, and many concubines, the delights of men. **9** So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem; my wisdom also remained with me. **10** All that my eyes desired, I did not deny them. I did not refuse myself any pleasure, for I took pleasure in all my struggles. This was my reward for all my struggles. **11** When I considered all that I had accomplished and what I had labored to achieve, I found everything to be futile and a pursuit of the wind. There was nothing to be gained under the sun.

Matthew 6:19-21 (CSB)

19 Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. **20** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Notes

Pastor's Word by Pastor Donald Gardner

"Theology (the study of God) is important for us all!"

In 1975, I was privileged to move to Hong Kong where I worked with University Students at Hong Kong Baptist University. In that Fall, I received training to be a Counselor at an upcoming Billy Graham Crusade. During that Fall of '75, we learned what it was like for a city to be mesmerized by the impact of the gospel. Meeting in the Hong Kong Stadium and the overflow crowd in the Happy Valley Racetrack nearby, there were over 220,000 persons in the five nights of services. During those days, there were nearly 25,000 1st time decisions for Christ that were recorded. Why do I mention this? Salvation is by its very definition and in line with the Scripture of John 3:16 (**For God So Loves the World that He Gave His Only Begotten Son that ALL who believe On Him Shall not perish but have Eternal Life**). While God knows who will use his/her freedom of choice to accept Christ as Saviour & Lord, the Father's knowledge is not a control on an individual's decision making. In essence, there is a difference between Predestination and Predetermination. God's Omniscience doesn't eliminate the free will he provides for each of us. One of the comments that Dr. Graham has used many times over the years is, "Christ came for the whole world and not just some of us!" God desires to see us use our own personal "will" to find "His Will." For God to know what our choices will be regarding salvation is not the same as His pre-determining our choice as though we were just pieces on a chessboard.

I am happy that the God I worship knows the hairs on my head and understands my character and personality. I am saddened that I am such a poor follower and disciple of Christ. Yet, I am so highly appreciative of the freedom of choice that God gives to us all for either receiving Christ's salvation or not. I have friends that I pray for who have not, after many years, chosen to follow Christ. Missions exist in a church because the lost around us still need to make a decision, as Dr. Graham called for each time he preached. I have not surrendered my prayers for my friends and hope each of them will repent of their sins and follow Christ. For us to be a true church, we must hold on to the burden of sharing Christ with the Lost for God does "**Love the World....**" I praise God for the freedom of choice given to each person as we evaluate the actions of Christ on the Cross on our behalf. In that evaluation, God must smile and rejoice with His angels for each of us using our freedom so wisely to come in line with His perfect Will! (**Luke 15:10----In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the Angels of God over one sinner who repents.**)

Announcements

- **Church Wide Prayer Meeting at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary, no lunch will be served.**
- **Adult Christmas Choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, Oct 6 at 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm in the Choir Room.** Rehearsals will be held each Sunday until Christmas Sunday, Dec 22, 2024. To join, please contact Margie Joe (margie@cbchouston.org). Come let us proclaim the joyous birth of our Lord, Jesus!
- **Brownsville Mission Trip canceled**, instead there will be a missions training opportunity at Wilcrest Baptist Church called "Who Is My Neighbor?", Friday, Oct 11 and Sat Oct 12. It will help us achieve a similar purpose of learning to engage the unreached groups living around our communities for the sake of the gospel. If anyone is interested, please register at <https://www.ubahouston.org/events>.
- **Senior Rainbow Fellowship will be on Thursday, Oct 17, 2024** from 10 am to noon in the FLC. The topic is "Medicare Changes for 2025"- speaker- Dr. Gene Yee (translation will be available), open to everyone, lunch cost will be \$5/ person. Please RSVP to Josephine Jue at 713-774-4321; or Dorothy Chow at 281-222-9180 for food count.
- We will start collecting this Sunday, Oct 6 a "**Special Offering Hurricane Helene**" ; the special offering envelope will be ready for pick up near the Offertory box and in the foyer.

Donald Gardner Senior Pastor pastordon@cbchouston.org	Jian Yang (John) Mandarin Pastor pastorjohn@cbchouston.org	Kai Yuen Choi Cantonese Pastor pastorkaiyuen@cbchouston.org
Oleg Xu Interim Eng Associate Pastor pastoroleg@cbchouston.org	Justin Wong Youth Pastor pastorjustin@cbchouston.org	Geraldine Lee KidMin Director geraldinel@cbchouston.org