

# Worldly Leadership

If you are a student who has been with us for four years then you would have astonishingly experienced Australia change Prime Minister twice—and neither time through a general election.

This merry-go-round of PM's has been... well, astonishing. In the past 10 years we have had 5 PM's. This figure is further mindboggling given that the previous 5 PM's led the country for over nearly 40 years together. Australia is not used to this much change.

Here are some thoughts on the events that have unfolded.

1. There is a growing disdain in our community for politics and politicians—and the switch of leadership on Friday only further cements this. Lots of my friends, even Christian friends, 'vocalised' concerns and contempt for particular parliamentary ministers. While some of this criticism is warranted, and in our country we have the right and privilege to fairly criticise our leaders, to me it appeared to verge on an unbiblical denunciation. Paul calls Christians to humbly submit to governing authorities in Romans 13. So even our criticism needs to be checked that we do not overstep the bounds that scripture encourages us towards.

2. If this merry-go-round of leadership in Australia has shown, leadership in the eyes of our world is so much about popularity and giftedness in terms of skill and communication. If we're not mindful this sort of thinking can creep into the church when we select leaders. It's worth being reminded that the leadership qualities and characteristics in Titus 2 and 1 Timothy 3 are predominantly about character—in particular godly characteristics that can only be tested over time.

3. It will be fascinating to see how the disunity that has been caused through this will be repaired (if at all). Unity in the world is found primarily through people working hard together for a common goal. Unity in the church is found first in the death of Jesus for us all, and the mission He gives to us.

4. The merry-go-round office of PM in Australia further highlights how much better Jesus is. There's no comparison actually. Jesus is the true King of His people, and His leadership will never fail, and His leadership is worth bowing down before and giving our lives for. So let us maintain our faith in Him, and not be tempted to trust in worldly governments for our worldly benefit.



26 August 2018 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

## Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at [www.slechurch.org.au](http://www.slechurch.org.au).

### This Week: Isaiah #6— The Fate of Two Cities

In our passage today, God's judgement over the entire earth is shown to be reality in the future. Judgement and hell are real and terrible. While judgement is a big theme of these 4 chapters, the dominant theme is actually the hope of salvation. The reality and horror of judgement drives us to find cover, to find a place of refuge—refuge that can only be found in the Lord Jesus Christ alone, through faith alone.

#### Next Week:

Isaiah #7 [Isaiah 28-35]



## Today's Service

- Welcome and Singing** Behold Our God  
Rock of Ages  
We Belong to the Day
- Holy Communion**
- Offering**
- Community News**
- Bible Reading** Isaiah 24:1-25:9;  
2 Peter 3:3-10, 14-15a
- Sermon** By Pastor Ben Ho
- Song of Response** I Have A Shelter

## Stay Connected

- [facebook.com/slechurch](https://facebook.com/slechurch)
- [slechurch.org.au](http://slechurch.org.au)
- +61 7 3371 7589
- [info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au)
- 83 Ryans Road, St Lucia 4067

Check out [slechurch.org.au/groups](http://slechurch.org.au/groups) to find a group that you can join.

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# Say hello

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Join us for morning tea at 10:30am.  
We'd love to have a chat and get to know you better.

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## Our Pastors

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### PASTOR BEN HO

**Mobile:** +61 433 581 335

**Email:** ben.ho@slechurch.org.au

### PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

**Mobile:** +61 411 621 159

**Email:** steven.tran@slechurch.org.au

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## Financial Update

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Last Week	\$4,990.05
Weekly Required	\$5,520
Shortfall 2018	\$0.00

### Giving by Electronic Funds Transfer

**A/C Name:** SLE Church  
**Bank:** National Australia Bank  
**BSB:** 084-424  
**A/C No:** 396558544

SLE Church is a branch church of Chinese Christian Church Brisbane

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## Prayer Points

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**PRAY FOR SOFT HEARTS IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S JUDGEMENT.** Pray that as we continue to hear God's hard work on judgement that we would respond with soft hearts and repentance. Pray too that those who have not yet bowed their knees to Jesus would do so.

**PRAY FOR EACH OTHER** as many of us feel tired already, even as we have just entered into the second half of the year. Pray that we would rest well, especially in the promises in God's Word.

**PRAISE GOD THAT ALL GOVERNMENT** is from His hands, and that His King will one day rule forever—with no threat to His leadership, and no contenders able to stand against Him. Praise God that Jesus is the best, and truest King/ leader that we need.

**PRAY FOR AUSTRALIA'S NEWEST PRIME MINISTER: SCOTT MORRISON.** Pray that he would govern well, in line with his Christian values, seeking fairness, justice and equity. Ask God to give him wisdom in knowing how to govern in a climate of deep skepticism about our governing leaders. Pray that Christians would prayerfully support him and humbly submit to his governance (cf Romans 13).

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## Community News

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### BLOOM EVENT: BECOMING GOD'S TRUE WOMAN PART 2 – 1 SEP @ SLE HALL

In our first BLOOM in April this year, we looked at how God designed man and woman to be equal in worth, but have different roles and responsibilities. This is God's blueprint for humanity, a pattern for us to follow for all times. But the world tells us otherwise. What does it mean to be a "helper" to the men? What does it mean to "submit" as the men lead? Sadly, these words have taken on a negative connotation in society today. How confusing that can be!

Join us for the next BLOOM talk on 1 September, 1:30-4pm. as we look at what it means, as godly women, to serve with the men at home and in church.

Please register at the BLOOM table outside over morning tea, or online at <https://slechurch.org.au/bloom/>

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## Serving

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	Today	Next Week
<b>Chair</b>	Simeon	Ps Ben
<b>Preach</b>	Ps Ben	Ps Steven
<b>Bible Read</b>	Simeon <i>Dan Lowe</i>	Andrew <i>Jessica</i>
<b>M.Tea</b>	Cecilia Genevieve	Georgie Winnie Tao
<b>Wash Up</b>	SOS Central	SOS Central
<b>Welcome</b>	Philip Mee Lan Meng Yin <i>Benedict</i> <i>David</i> <i>Hui Xian</i> <i>Jessica</i>	Ken Steph Amy <i>James</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Leya</i> <i>Marilyn</i>
<b>Stewards</b>	Norman Alvin <i>Aaron</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Meng Yin David Chong <i>Nethanel</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>DT/Jordan</i>
<b>Piano</b>	Dan Lowe	Liesl
<b>Guitar</b>	Shao Peng	Mark
<b>Bass</b>	Ethan	Chuan Yuan
<b>Drums</b>	Ivan	Marcus
<b>Vocal</b>	Shaun	Sarah/Joachim
<b>PA</b>	Matt <i>Daniel</i>	

## The Fate of Two Cities (Isaiah 24-27)

1. Introduction: avoiding the subject of death

2. The “Wasted City” - Certainty and Totality of Final Judgement (24)

A. Who? The entire earth

B. Why? Universal guilt

C. What? Destruction and desolation

3. The “Mountain City” - Certainty and Totality of Eternal Blessings (25)

A. A place of refuge

B. NO desolation, but celebration

C. NO destruction, but resurrection

4. Who Can Enter? (26:1-2; 27:12-13)

5. Responding to God’s Offer

A. Trust in the Lord forever

B. Faithful waiting

C. Faithful warning