

A More Sure Word of Prophecy (by John MacArthur) - condensed

“Go with your gut.” That might be good advice when shopping for shoes online, but it’s not a reliable means for interpreting or understanding God’s Word. Too many people in the church today trust the inclinations of the upper abdomen to be the final arbiter that determines both when God is speaking and what He is saying. That’s a dangerous approach—one that will likely lead to spiritual confusion and chaos. If we turn our faith into an entirely subjective exercise, we’re left with no reliable way to determine what is actually true.

Scripture very clearly addresses that issue. The apostle Peter settled the matter by proclaiming the authority and supremacy of Scripture when he wrote, *We did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honour and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory. “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased” - and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain (2 Peter 1:16-18).*

Peter was describing an event that may have been the most spectacular spiritual experience of his life. This was the transfiguration of Christ, when our Lord appeared in His full glory. Peter heard the voice of God and saw Moses and Elijah face to face. Best of all, he got a preview of Christ in His glory. This was not a dream or vision, or an impression in Peter’s mind, or a figment of his imagination. It was real life (“we did not follow cleverly devised tales”). He saw it with his own eyes (“we were eyewitnesses”). He heard the voice of God with his own ears (“we ourselves heard this utterance”). He was there in person with other apostolic eyewitnesses (“we were with Him”). There was nothing subjective about this experience.

Yet Peter goes on to say that even what he heard with his own ears and saw with his own eyes was not as authoritative as the eternal Word of God contained in Scripture: *We have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God (2 Peter 1:19-21).*

Peter is not saying that his eyewitness testimony makes the “prophecy of Scripture” more sure. He is saying that the written Word of God by its very nature is more sure than his own experience. That surely puts subjective impressions when we have such a sure Word? Peter admonishes his readers with the reminder that they would “do well to pay attention [to Scripture] as to a lamp shining in a dark place” (v19). The imagery here speaks of a single source of light, like a night light, shining in an otherwise dark place. Peter’s point is that we needn’t grope about in the dark in search of truth. Rather we should focus all our vision on the light cast by that single source—the written Word of God.

God’s people should want to hear from Him. But rather than chasing fanciful impressions and private revelations, that longing ought to prompt us to become eager students of His Word. He has already said everything He needs to say—it’s our job to strive to understand it.



05 May 2019 | 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.

This Week: Gospel of Mark—Listen to the King part 2

Disciples of Jesus listen to Him when it comes to His teaching on His death and resurrection, on greatness in His Kingdom, on those who are for Jesus, on the seriousness of sin, and on peace with each other.



Next Sunday: Mark 9:30-50

Today’s Service

Welcome and Singing	O Great God Your Words of Life Show Us Christ
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	Mark 9:6, 30-50
Sermon	By Pastor Steven Tran
Song of Response	Speak, O Lord

Stay Connected

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Check out slechurch.org.au/groups to find a group that you can join.

Say hello

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

Our Pastors

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$4,956.53
Weekly Required	\$5,750.00
Shortfall 2019	\$613.00

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

Prayer Points

PRAISE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, who sits in the heavenly places, glorious and with all authority in heaven and on earth. Pray hopefully and longingly for that day when He is revealed in the fullness of His glory, and when those who trust Him will receive what they have hoped for and enter into the promise of glory and rest.

THANK OUR LORD JESUS for the love and grace He showed the disciples in revealing a glimpse of His future glory on the mountain to encourage them to keep persevering in the current life of suffering, rejection, and death, the way of the cross that is the way of every Christian who follows the Christ. Thank God that He continues to lovingly encourage us to press on in so many ways—His living word, His indwelling Spirit, the church, and in many and varied ways.

PRAY THAT WE WOULD INDEED SEE

the word as 'more sure' than any experience or new thoughts. Pray that we would seek to read, study, learn, understand and respond to God's word.

PRAY FOR PRAYERFULNESS— to be steadfast in prayer, being watchful in it and always thankful. Pray for a true faith and dependence on Jesus that is expressed in continual prayerfulness. Pray this for ourselves as individuals, and for our fellowship groups and our church.

PRAY FOR THE AGMS HAPPENING

today, that decisions made and prayers prayed would serve to glorify God as we continue our life as His Church.

Community News

AGMS—TODAY! 5 MAY

Appointment of Proxies can be done today at the Patio for CCCB Inc and SLDB AGMs—see table at the patio.

CCCB Inc AGM : 12:15pm
@ 23 Beenleigh Rd, Coopers Plains

SLE AGM : 1:30pm-2pm
@ North Hall, St Lucia

SLDB AGM : 2pm-2:20pm
@ North Hall, St Lucia

GRUNT SESSION 2

In Grunt session 1 we looked at what the Bible says about God's good design for men. This upcoming Grunt we'll be looking at God's good design for men in the church, and we'll be challenged to live that out in SLE Church!

8am breakfast (\$5), 9am start

Saturday, 11th May

North Hall

RSVP via church website: slechurch.org.au/ grunt

SAVE THE DATE!

Church Camp 2019—4 to 7 October.

More details to come soon!

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Simeon	Ps Steven
Prayer	Dan	Ps Steven
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Simeon <i>Simeon</i>	Andrew <i>Marilyn</i>
M.Tea	Winnie T. Steph Choi	Genevieve Daisy
Wash Up	SOS Central	SOS Central
Welcome	Meng Yin Dan Amy <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>	Meng Yin Dan Dan <i>Amy</i> <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>
Stewards	Jeffrey Graham Alvin <i>Alan</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Jeffrey Graham Alvin <i>DT</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Dan Lowe	Liesl
Guitar	Shao Peng	Ivan
Bass	Aaron	Ethan
Drums	John	Nigel
Vocal	Amanda	Hui Ming / Sharne
PA	Matt T <i>Jowin</i>	William <i>Chris</i>

9. The Gospel of Mark—Listen to the King—Part 2 [Mark 9:30-50]

Introduction

Listen to Jesus!

1. Re: His death and resurrection (9:30-32)

2. Re: greatness according to Jesus (9:33-37)

3. Re: those 'with us' (9:38-41)

4. Re: the seriousness of sin (9:42-50)

a. Leading others to sin

b. "Cut it off"

c. Unity