



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](http://CBCHOUSTON.ORG)

713.461.0963

**May 25, 2025**



**Here He Comes Again!**

**Revelation 1:1-18**

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	Hebrews 12:28-29 (NIV)
Welcome	Gary Sham
Adoration	Everlasting God Even So Come Christ Our Hope In Life And Death
Prayer	Candy Chin
Scripture Reading	Revelation 1:1-18 (CSB) Johnson Leo
Proclamation	Here He Comes Again! Pastor Donald Gardner
Response Music	Nothing But The Blood/ Lord I Need You
Offertory Prayer	Johnson Leo
Announcements	Kristina Liu
Benediction	Pastor Donald Gardner

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# Revelation 1:1-18 (CSB)

**1** The revelation of Jesus Christ that God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, **2** who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, whatever he saw. **3** Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near. **4** John: To the seven churches in Asia. Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, **5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by his blood, **6** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **7** Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn over him. So it is to be. Amen. **8** “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “the one who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” **9** I, John, your brother and partner in the affliction, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. **10** I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard a loud voice behind me like a trumpet **11** saying, “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.” **12** Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me. When I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, **13** and among the lampstands was one like the Son of Man, dressed in a robe and with a golden sash wrapped around his chest. **14** The hair of his head was white as wool—white as snow—and his eyes like a fiery flame. **15** His feet were like fine bronze as it is fired in a furnace, and his voice like the sound of cascading waters. **16** He had seven stars in his right hand; a sharp double-edged sword came from his mouth, and his face was shining like the sun at full strength. **17** When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He laid his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid. I am the First and the Last, **18** and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades.

**Notes:**

**OUTLINE:**

**I. The Messiah of Old (Jesus was the suffering servant)**

- Jesus was the Messiah but by His own definition! He was a servant not an earthly king!
- We worship a king that is, by many people's view, not a king! He was a humble servant.

**II. The Messiah of New (The Victorious Christ....our Hope!)**

- The Jesus of John's Revelation is not the same suffering servant. He will be the judge.
- Jesus, of Revelation, is the powerful one who will reign!
- V. 8....He is the Almighty....Alpha & Omega!
- Persecution may have come to Christ's followers but our faithfulness will carry us on!
- John shared and received punishment but it didn't stop his efforts!
- Hope for this Messiah! Can we patiently wait?
- II Timothy 4:1-4 <sup>1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup>Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. <sup>3</sup>For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup>They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

**III. Christ is the Good News....He Lives! (vs. 17-18)**

- Omnipotent Messiah at last!!! Eternity is promised for Christ's followers! Hope at last!

Monthly Preaching Schedule

Date	English (9:45 am)	Mandarin (9:45 am)	Cantonese (11:15 am)
5/25/2025	Pastor Don Gardner	Pastor Kai Yuen Choi	Pastor Don Gardner
6/1/2025	Pastor Don Gardner	Pastor Jian Yang	Rev. Andrew Chao
6/8/2025	Pastor Don Gardner	Pastor Jian Yang	Mr. Paul Lau

Donald Gardner Senior Pastor pastordon@cbchouston.org	Jian Yang (John) Mandarin Pastor pastorjohn@cbchouston.org
Oleg Xu Interim English Associate Pastor pastoroleg@cbchouston.org	Geraldine Lee KidMin Director geraldinel@cbchouston.org

# Pastor's Word by Pastor Donald Gardner

## "Head Knowledge vs Heart Dependency?"

Are there ever times when enough "Training and/or Teaching" is enough? My response is a resounding YES! Recently, I was in a meeting where I heard a comment made that a specific group of Christians desired for more training. As I listened, I continued to consider that perhaps the problem for deeper Christian growth and experience by that group might be more of a heart issue than a head one? Indeed, when our heart is not in a receptive state or is too unpenetrated by the Holy Spirit's loving values, we may blame outside knowledge or input when the real problem is within ourselves. We must remember that God seldom is found to cut Himself off from us while we more often are the culprit who is guilty of finding excuses from being dependent in our intimate walk with the Lord. Micah 6:8 says it pretty clearly, *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."*

Revival is a term that is often used to describe a hunger for God's control over an individual's life. Of course, the obvious implication is that one has first had a firm conversion experience to "revive." With the assumption that such a Christian conversion is more than a head knowledge of Christ and the person has faced their own sinful state with the broken repentance that brought he or she to know Christ as Savior, the renewed wish to revitalize one's relationship with the Holy Spirit of God is fantastic! It is not a point of shame to recognize one's weakness or desire to be closer to the Lord. Indeed, Paul often speaks of his inability to control his sinful nature while he desires to limit those habits for which he is ashamed. The Scripture describes the heart as sometimes being a wild thing and hard to conquer. With many Biblical references about the heart, Isaiah (29:13) says it this way, *"These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on mere human rules they have been taught."*

I am a solid believer that teaching and training within any church is vital for our development. I believe that the Holy Spirit is our best teacher. At the same time, it is my earnest desire to see each Christian experience the revival of a daily dependence beyond our knowledge and training as we walk in the fellowship of serving Jesus with the living joy of our salvation. Could it be that we all need to focus more on what God has provided for us and worry less about what we don't feel we have in the area of knowledge? Surrounded by a lost world of empty hearts, praise God the Christian can rejoice that Jesus fills our Soul with purpose.

## Announcements

- **VBC (Vacation Bible Camp) from 9 am to 12 pm / KCC (Kids Chinese Camp) from 1 pm to 5 pm, which will be held from June 23 to June 27. Online registration is now open!** It is for children aged 4 years to 12 years. Please bring your own lunch. Lunch time will be from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Sign up here: <https://cbchouston.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2824896> or scan the QR code below.
- **Senior Rainbow Field Trip to San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site** will be on **Wednesday, June 4, 2025**. The cost is \$28/person (including entry fee, tour guide and lunch). Please RSVP to Dorothy Chow at 281-222-9180 or Josephine Jue at 713-774-4321.
- **Senior Rainbow Fellowship "Celebrate Father's day"** that will be held on **Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 10 am in the FLC**. Cost is \$8/ person. Please RSVP to Dorothy Chow at 281-222-9180 or Josephine Jue at 713-774-4321.
- **Community Service Projects for the Youth** will be on **Saturday, June 14, 2025 and Monday, June 16 through Thursday, June 19, 2025**. Details to follow soon!
- **Combined Worship Service in observance of Independence Day** will be on **Sunday, July 6, 2025 at 10 am in the Sanctuary**. The Church Wide Prayer meeting will be integrated into the Worship Service followed by a Church Wide Picnic event in the FLC. Details coming soon!
- **Save the date: Church Wide Retreat** will be on **Friday, Oct 3 to Sunday, Oct 5, 2025 at the Trinity Pines Camp**. Details to follow soon!
- **Spiritual Gift Assessment Form and Ministry Fair Response Form are available**. These forms are an important part of helping us understand how God has uniquely gifted each of you and where you can serve in our CBC church community.



Spiritual Gift Form



Ministry Fair Response



VBC/KCC