



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 8 February 2015

Theme for the Year: "Out of Myself and into the Savior" (Ezekiel 14:4-6)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	17 - <i>Come Thou Fount</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 97
Hymn	Insert - <i>Jehovah Reigns, Let Earth Be Glad</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Exodus 34:4-10
Hymn	209 - <i>Grace Greater than Our Sins</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"God's Chesed Love Endures Forever"
*Closing Hymn	301 - <i>The King of Love My Shepherd Is</i>
*Benediction & † <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>
Announcements	† <i>Inside cover of hymnal</i>

**Congregation standing*

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 3:00 pm
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia
Website: www.covenantbpc.org.au
Email: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

Remember Lot's Wife (Part I)

One of my greatest concerns for my family and for the families in the church, is the potential absence of true spirituality.

We raise our children in the faith, and we ourselves, have many privileges. But there is a very scary possibility that our children, our friends, and even ourselves may not truly be in the Lord.

JC Ryle (1816-1900) has written a piece for our reflection. May it evoke careful examination of ourselves. ~ Pastor

There are few warnings in Scripture more solemn than this. Our Lord Jesus Christ says to us, "Remember Lot's wife" (Luke 17:32).

Lot's wife professed the true religion. Her husband was a "righteous man" (2 Peter 2:8). She left Sodom with him on the day when Sodom was destroyed.

She looked back towards the city from behind her husband, against God's clear command. She was struck dead at once and turned into a pillar of salt. And our Lord Jesus Christ holds her up as a warning to his church. He says, "Remember Lot's wife."

It is a solemn warning, when we think of the person Jesus names. He does not bid us to remember Abraham, or Isaac, or Jacob, or Sarah, or Hannah, or Ruth. No. He singles out one whose soul was lost forever. He cries out to us, "Remember Lot's wife."

It is a solemn warning, when we consider the subject Jesus is addressing. He is speaking of his own second coming to judge the world: he is describing the awful state of unpreparedness in which many will be found. Judgment is on his mind when he says, "Remember Lot's wife."

It is a solemn warning, when we think of the person who gives it. Our Lord Jesus is full of love, mercy, and compassion. He is one who will never break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax. He

could weep over unbelieving Jerusalem. He could pray for the men who crucified him. Yet even he thinks it good to give this solemn warning and remind us of lost souls. Even he says, "Remember Lot's wife."

It is a solemn warning, when we think of the persons to whom it was first given. Our Lord Jesus was speaking to his disciples. He was not addressing the scribes and Pharisees who hated him, but Peter, James, and John, and many others who loved him. Yet even to them he thinks it good to address a caution. Even to them he says, "Remember Lot's wife."

It is a solemn warning, when we consider the manner in which it was given. He does not merely say, "Beware of following ... take heed of imitating ... do not be like ... Lot's wife."

He uses a different word: he says, "Remember." He speaks as if we are each in danger of forgetting the subject. He stirs up our lazy memories. He bids us keep the case before our minds. He cries, "Remember Lot's wife."

Consider the religious privileges which Lot's wife enjoyed. In the days of Abraham and Lot, true saving religion was scarce on the earth. There were no Bibles, no ministers, no churches, no tracts, no missionaries. The knowledge of God was confined to a few favored families.

The greater part of the inhabitants of the world were living in darkness, ignorance, superstition, and sin.

Not one in a thousand perhaps had such good example, such spiritual society, such clear knowledge, such plain warnings as Lot's wife. Compared with millions of her fellow creatures in her time, Lot's wife was a favored woman.

She had a believer for her husband. She had Abraham, the father of the faithful, for her uncle by marriage. The faith, the knowledge, and the prayers of these two

righteous men could have been no secret to her.

It is impossible that she could have dwelt in tents with them for any length of time, without knowing whose they were and whom they served. Religion with them was no formality. It was the ruling principle of their lives. It was the mainspring of their actions. Lot's wife must have seen and known all this. This was no small privilege!

When Abraham first received the promises, Lot's wife was probably there. When he built his tent between Ai and Bethel, she was probably there. When the angels came to Sodom and warned her husband to flee, she saw them. When they took them by the hand and led them out of the city, she was one of those whom they helped to escape. Once more, I say, these were no small privileges!

Yet what good effect did all these privileges have on the heart of Lot's wife? None at all. Despite all her opportunities and means of grace—

despite all her special warnings and messages from heaven—she lived and died graceless, godless, impenitent, and unbelieving.

The eyes of her understanding were never opened. Her conscience was never really aroused and quickened. Her will was never really brought into a state of obedience to God.

Her affections were never really set on things above. The form of religion which she had was kept up for the sake of fashion, not from sincerity. It was a coat worn to please her family, but not from any sense of its value.

She did as others around her in Lot's house. She conformed to her husband's ways. She did not oppose his religion. She let herself be passively towed along in his wake. But all this time her heart was wrong in the sight of God. The world was in her heart, and her heart was in the world! In this state she lived, and in this state she died.

(to be continued...)



Westminster Confession of Faith XXI - Of Religious Worship, and the Sabbath Day

7. As it is the law of nature, that, in general, a due proportion of time be set apart for the worship of God; so, in His Word, by a positive, moral, and perpetual commandment binding all men in all ages, He has particularly appointed one day in seven, for a Sabbath, to be kept holy unto him:¹ which, from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was the last day of the week: and, from the resurrection of Christ, was changed into the first day of the week,² which, in Scripture, is called the Lord's Day,³ and is to be continued to the end of the world, as the Christian Sabbath.⁴
8. This Sabbath is to be kept holy unto the Lord when men, after a due preparing of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy rest all the day from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations,⁵ but also are taken up the whole time in the public and private exercises of His worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy.⁶

1. Exodus 20:8, 10–11; Isaiah 56:2, 4, 6–7

2. Genesis 2:2–3; 1 Corinthians 16:1–2; Acts 20:7

3. Revelation 1:10

4. Exodus 20:8, 10; Matthew 5:17–18.

5. Exodus 20:8; 16:23, 25–26, 29–30; 31:15–17; Isaiah 58:13; Nehemiah 13:15–22

6. Isaiah 58:13; Matthew 12:1–13.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (8.2.15)</i>	<i>Next Week (15.2.15)</i>
Speaker	Glen Lock	Ronald Nugent
Worship Leader	Jimmy Orchard	Terence Lee
Pianist	Valerie Ong	Edward Lim
Welcomers	Yen Fye & Angela Yap	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	David Lim, Ken Hong	Philip Orchard, David Ong
Usher	Angela Yap	Joyce Ng
Kitchen Duties	Lisa Lim*, Adeline Ng Aliza Chiu	Jesslyn Leow*, Jackie Hong Julian Poon
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>11 February 2015</i>	<i>18 February 2015</i>
Speaker	Terence Lee	Johnson Lim
Chairperson	Jonathan Ong	LH Chua
Pianist	Merilyn Orchard	Nancy Lim

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's messenger is Ronald Nugent, former Pastor of All Nations Presbyterian Church. He will be speaking on "The Word of the Lord" (Jeremiah 1:1-19).
3. Pastor will be away from 3 to 19 February. For pastoral care, please contact Mr Philip Gardiner, Pastor of Perth Free Presbyterian Church, 0459 693 339.
4. The Adult Bible Class is in recess on 8 and 15 February.
5. Shepherding a Child's Heart Parenting Conference. Speaker: Dr Tedd Tripp. Dates: Monday, 13 - Wednesday, 15 April 2015. Time: 7:30 - 9:30 pm. Venue: Westminster Presbyterian Church Bull Creek. Please register at www.covenantbpc.org.au/shepherding. Like and share it at www.facebook.com/shepherding.perth. Additional flyers are available at the foyer.

Appointments for the Week

WED	7:45 pm	Prayer Meeting - Psalm 98
FRI	7:45 pm	JF, YPG, and Parents' Group
SAT	8.00 pm	Men's Bible Study
SUN	3:00 pm	Worship & Sunday School

Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

General Fund - \$2,998.00. *Missions Fund* - \$340.00. *Building Fund* - \$150.00 (#198 - \$150.00). *Total Tithes & Offering* - \$3,488.00. *Attendance* - 121.

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.

Deacons: **Ken Chong** 0402 553 313. **LH Chua** 0435 601 373. **Terence Lee** 0418 845 617. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **SK Loh** 9386 1660.