



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

### Order of Worship — 6 September 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	12 - <i>Great God of Wonders</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 125
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	TP 32
Hymn	206 - <i>Wonderful Grace of Jesus</i>
Tithes & Offering	
**†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 9:15-28
Hymn	395 - <i>Only One Life</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"For This Cause"
*Closing Hymn	496 - <i>Victory in Jesus</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>
Announcements	<i>*Congregation standing</i>

† Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be:  
World without end. Amen.

†† Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 3:00 pm  
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: [www.covenantbpc.org.au](http://www.covenantbpc.org.au)

Email: [pastor@covenantbpc.org.au](mailto:pastor@covenantbpc.org.au)

## Resistance to Tyranny Is Obedience to God

The title of this article is a quote from John Knox. Knox, who was a Scottish Presbyterian Pastor, resisted the reign of Mary Queen of Scots. The queen was persecuting Christians.

Is it right to submit to authority which is ungodly? The Bible tells us to submit to authority - even that of ungodly men (Romans 13:1-7).

But the difference is this - the Christian cannot submit to an ungodly government which forces the Christian to disobey God and violate his conscience.

*Kim Davis, the Brave County Clerk*

When the US supreme court allowed for same-sex marriage, it became a federal ruling that affected all the states.

Across that nation, gay couples started to apply to get married. Kim Davis, who was a county clerk in Kentucky, refused to issue marriage licenses.

She was told that she needed to start issuing marriage licenses or quit her job.

She refused to do either. Her reason? She is a Christian. Kim Davis became a Christian only four years ago.

She said, "I promised to love Him with all my heart, mind and soul because I wanted to make heaven my home... God's moral law conflicts with my job duties. You can't be separated from something that's in your heart and in your soul."

At the same time, Kim Davis, as county clerk is an elected official. She exercises the will of the people. If she does not, then she can be impeached or voted out of office.

What should she do? Obey her conscience or fulfill her role as an elected official?

If she obeys her conscience she is in contempt of court. If she carries out her role, she is in contempt of God.

*When Courts Become Contemptible*

I believe what she did was right. To have carried out the orders of the courts would have violated her conscience.

The reason for this is because the courts have become contemptible.

It was completely legal and sanctioned by the Nazi courts and legislation for German clerks during the Third Reich to stamp and process all the paper work to expedite the transfer of Jews to Auschwitz or Dachau.

Yet, most of the world would have cheered if this clerk had been prosecuted and found guilty during the trials of Nuremberg.

And it was completely illegal for someone like Oskar Schindler to have shielded the Jews under his employment from the Gestapo.

Yet, most of the world applauded Schindler for his opposition to Nazi law. A movie was even made of his life.

The difference between Kim Davis and Oskar Schindler is negligible in this case. The problem is simple - the ethos of the time has changed. What was right is now wrong; and what was wrong is now right.

And so, have the courts in the United States of America become contemptible. Christians are the Jews now. And this is no surprise.

## *The Bible, Government Officials, and Contemptible Courts*

Daniel was an official in the Babylonian court of King Nebuchadnezzar.

After Daniel disobeyed the king's wicked commandment, he was thrown into the lion's den. When he emerged unscathed, he denied that he had done any wrong.

Daniel 6:22 - "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: *forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.*"

Daniel was clear in conscience before God and before the king. It was the law that was in error, not Daniel.

In John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, he wrote that King Nebuchadnezzar "had exceeded his limits, and not only been injurious to men, but, by raising his horn against God, had virtually abrogated his own power."

Daniel was not quick to obey. But unfortunately, even God's people can be easily deceived.

When the golden calf was set up by Jeroboam, the Israelites were too ready to obey his command. They forsook the temple of God and in submissiveness, they obeyed Jeroboam's commands.

John Calvin says, "We are subject to the men who rule over us, but subject only in the Lord. If they command anything against Him let us not pay the least regard to it, nor be moved by all the dignity which they possess as magistrates - a dignity to which no injury is done when it is subordinated to the special and truly supreme power of God."

Therefore, such resistance to tyranny is obedience to God. And while there be certain repercussions on the people of God, our conscience is clear.

Mat Staver, who represents Kim Davis said, "[She] is being treated as a criminal because she cannot violate her conscience. While she may be behind bars for now, Kim Davis is a free woman. Her conscience remains unshackled."

O Lord, give us this courage. ~ Pastor



## **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 3. What is the Word of God?

A. The holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and obedience.

Q. 4. How doth it appear that the Scriptures are of the Word of God?

A. The Scriptures manifest themselves to be the Word of God, by their majesty and purity; by the consent of all the parts, and the scope of the whole, which is to give all glory to God; by their light and power to convince and convert sinners, to comfort and build up believers unto salvation: but the Spirit of God bearing witness by and with the Scriptures in the heart of man, is alone able fully to persuade it that they are the very word of God.

Q. 5. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

# Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (6.9.15)	Next Week (13.9.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Raymond Woo
Pianist	Jabez Huang	Edward Lim
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Yen Fye & Angela Yap
Offering Stewards	Rex Sriharan, David Pang	Paul Butler, Jansen Ng
Usher	Hannah Chiang	Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Angela Yap*, Putri Harapan, Jackie Hong, Sarah Siew	Jenni Budiman*, Hannah Chiang, Victor Poon
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>11 September 2015</i>	<i>18 September 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Chairperson	LH Chua	Jansen Ng
Pianist	Valerie Ong	Evelyn Lee

## 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 message: "Sanctified through Sacrifice" (Hebrews 10:1-8).
3. Sunday School teachers for the month of September are: Stephanie Lim, Jenni Budiman, Sandy Chua, Eileen Tay, Aliza Chiu, Lisa Lim; Evelyn Lee, Dorcas Pang; Chris Budiman; Mary-Anne Chan; Eugene Lim; Hannah Chiang; Ken Chong. Singspiration Leader: David Lim. Pianist: Nancy Lim.
4. VBS 2015 - "Jesus: Our Prophet, Priest, and King" (5-7 Oct, 0900-1215). Registration forms are available at the foyer and <http://www.covenantbpc.org.au/ministries/vacation-bible-school/>. Deadline for registration - 20 Sep. Volunteers needed. Contact Valerie at 0422 407 338.
5. The gay issue is increasingly prevalent in our society, and it's one the Church can no longer ignore. But how can we address it with love and truth? Come and watch "Audacity" on 11 September at 7.45 pm. Invite your friends.

### Appointments for the Week

FRI	7:45 pm	Prayer Meeting and JF
SAT	8:00 pm	Men's Bible Study
SUN	2:00 pm	Adult Bible Class
	3:00 pm	Worship & Sunday School

### Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

*General Fund* - \$2,949.25. *Missions Fund* - \$370.00 (#487 - \$40.00). *Building Fund* - \$1,200.00 (#288 - \$200.00, #289 - \$1,000.00). *Total Tithes & Offering* - \$4,419.25. Attendance - 120.

### Building Fund to Date

Starting Fund	\$54,185.68	Building Fund Account:
Pledges Collected	\$253,090.00	
Non-Pledged Gifts	\$272,446.36	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Loans Received	\$430,000.00	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Subtotal Building Fund</i>	<i>\$1,009,722.04</i>	BSB: 036-031      Acct: 316969
<i>Outstanding Pledges</i>	<i>\$38,630.00</i>	SWIFT: WPACAU2S
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$1,048,352.04</i>	

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.