



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

### Order of Worship – 17 July 2016

**Theme for the Year: "What Would Jesus Say About Your Church?" (Rev 3:22)**

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	1 - <i>O Worship the King</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 145:1-21
Hymn	TP 47:1-9
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Nehemiah 2:1-9
Hymn	328 - <i>Close to Thee</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"God Brings About His Kingdom"
*Closing Hymn	182 - <i>O Where Are Kings and Empires Now</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	
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 10:00 am  
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

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

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

## An Example that Ministers to Others (Part I)

### *The Little Pharisee in Us*

There is a little Pharisee in each of us. He is in me and he is in you. The Pharisees were not necessarily bad people. They had certain standards that they lived according to and they expected others to live to these standards also.

However, they didn't always live up to what they taught. We are all like that to some extent.

We have standards - some of them are Biblical standards and some of them are personal convictions. How we live and how we propagate those convictions are important.

### *Who Were the Pharisees?*

The Pharisees were the Bible teachers and Fundamentalists of their day.

Jesus encouraged his disciples to live according to the Pharisees' biblical teachings, but not to live like them.

Jesus said in Matthew 23:2-3 - *"The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: all therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not."*

What were the works of the Pharisees that Jesus didn't want the people to learn from?

### *Fault Finding*

The Pharisees and Scribes were fault finders. Mark 7:20 says, *"And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault."*

They were like chief inspectors - they were always looking for fault, especially in the Lord Jesus. And in finding fault, they became the moral standard for

what was right. Unfortunately, they couldn't see the weightier matters of the law.

Micah 6:8 - *"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"*

What is important to God is that we walk humbly before him, we demonstrate mercy, and we do right by everyone.

There is a little Pharisee in each of us. We each have certain standards. But we are very capable of finding fault in others when they do not meet our standards.

### *Burdening Others Without Helping Them*

The Pharisees also put heavy burdens on the people, but wouldn't help them.

Matthew 23:4 says, *"For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers."*

Some of the standards they insisted that people keep were good and biblical. Other standards that they insisted people keep were man-made.

We can impose very heavy standards on others. For example, modesty in dress is important - it shows the heart of a person.

Imposing certain man-made standards of modesty in length or color might solve the problem, but it doesn't address the heart.

There are those by reason of infirmity and immaturity who do not understand the principles of modesty. These things take time to be taught and absorbed by the heart.

We can be like the Pharisees when we don't help others to understand but only insist on their compliance.

### *Hypocrisy*

They were hypocrites. They kept certain standards, but not the important ones.

Matthew 23:23 says, "*Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.*"

For example, they were meticulous in keeping the tithe. They gave 10% of whatever they had to the temple. They even gave 10% of the herbs that grew wild in their gardens!

But what was more important were the things which were more important. We can often miss the forest for the trees.

We are all hypocrites - we often focus on the small things rather than the important things - and we aren't always consistent on the small things. We are reminded that the moral law, justice,

mercy, and faith are far more important. There's a little Pharisee in each one of us.

### *Preventing Others from Seeing Christ*

When we find fault easily, burden others without helping them, and live inconsistently, are we not hindering others from seeing Christ? Do we not make the kingdom harder to pursue?

Matthew 23:13 says, "*But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*"

Will Jesus say the same to others concerning us? "*All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.*"

Indeed, our works are a far more important message to others than any word we speak.

May the Lord continue to work in us, to give us a character and example that ministers to others. ~ Pastor



## **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 82. What is the communion in glory which the members of the invisible Church have with Christ?

A. The communion in glory which the members of the invisible Church have with Christ, is in this life, immediately after death, and at last perfected in their resurrection.

Q. 83. What is the communion in glory with Christ, which the members of the invisible Church enjoy in this life?

A. The members of the invisible Church have communicated to them in this life, the first-fruits of glory with Christ, as they are members of him their head, and so in him are interested in that glory which he is fully possessed of; and, as an earnest thereof, enjoy the sense of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, and hope of glory; as, on the contrary, sense of God's revenging wrath, horror of conscience, and a fearful expectation of judgment, are to the wicked the beginning of the torments which they shall endure after death.

# Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (17.7.16)	Next Week (24.7.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Johnson Lim	Terence Lee
Pianist	Edward Lim	Evelyn Lee
Welcomers	Ian & Merrill Read	Kim & Jesslyn Leow
Offering Stewards	Micah Chiang*, Jansen Ng* Paul Butler, David Lim	David Pang*, Yen Fye Yap* LH Chua, Chris Budiman
Usher	Josephine Austin, August Ng	Jesslyn Leow, Jerome Ng
Kitchen Duties	Florence Orchard*, Eileen Tay Julian Poon	Mary-Anne Chan*, Aliza Chiu Val Withnell
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>22 July 2016</i>	<i>29 July 2016</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Ian Tay	Eugene Lim

## Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshippers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "The Heartaches of Leadership" (Nehemiah 2:10-20).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message - "For Such a Time as This" (Esther 4.1-17). Speaker - Jacob Woo.
4. Attadale Friendship Group. 9:30 am, Thursday, 21 July 2016. Light activities. Soup and crusty bread served.
5. Ladies' Bible Study. 7:30 pm, Saturday, 23 July 2016 at the residence of August Ng. For more information, please contact Evelyn Lee at 0403 504 186.
6. Mukti Missions needs \$1,500 to buy a cow as they work toward being self-sufficient. Those wishing to give toward this may designate their offering.
7. Volunteers needed to collect bread on Saturday afternoons. Contact Ken Chong.
8. Ministry reports for AGM 2016 are to be completed and submitted to the clerk of session by 31 July 2016. Nominations for office bearers are also to be submitted by then.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group THU 9:30 am Attadale Friendship Group FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF 7:30 pm LBS SUN 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	<i>General Fund - \$3,860.70 (#586 - \$200.00).                      Missions Fund - \$430.00. Building Fund - \$5.00 (#383 - \$5.00). Total Tithes &amp; Offering - \$4,290.70. Attendance - 156.</i>

Building Fund to Date		
Available Building Fund	\$67,280.39	Building Fund Account:
Outstanding Pledges	\$4,375.00	
Last Week's Collection	\$5.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Total	\$71,660.39	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$416,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$344,339.61</i>	SWIFT: WPACAU2S

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 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. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.

God Brings About His Kingdom  
Nehemiah 2:1-9

Nehemiah was a prayerful man because he knew, above all, that God is the one who brings about his kingdom. And after Nehemiah prayed, God did exactly that.

1. God's Sovereign Hand Works for the Good of His Kingdom
  - a. God is the hero, weak men are the instruments
  - b. God moved the pagan kings to fulfil prophecy
    - i. Nebuchadnezzar - exile
    - ii. Cyrus - restoration
    - iii. Darius - temple
    - iv. Artaxerxes - worship
2. God's Sovereignty Helps Us to Prayerfully Wait for Him to Accomplish His Will
  - a. 4 months of praying
  - b. Nehemiah's limit
  - c. Artaxerxes' willingness
3. God's Sovereignty Propels Us to Godly Action
  - a. Nehemiah's planning
    - i. Time
    - ii. Passage
    - iii. Materials
  - b. When God answers a prayer, he answers a prayer.

God is sovereign. We must pray. We must prepare.

Questions:

1. Nehemiah understood that only God could change the heart. Why do we often make the mistake of trying to change someone else's heart, instead of leaving it up to the LORD to do it?
2. Nehemiah had his limitations and eventually showed the toil of his grief after 4 months of intense prayer. Why is it important to be hardy in the service of the Lord and why is it necessary to be gracious to those who struggle with discouragement in service?

Hear the good news that the biblical account of origins is not only historically accurate, but makes better sense of the evidence.



International speaker, author and biologist  
Dr Don Batten

DOES GOD EXIST  
WHAT ABOUT EVOLUTION WAS  
DARWIN RIGHT HOW CAN A LOVING GOD  
ALLOW SUFFERING AND DEATH WHAT ABOUT THE  
AGE OF THE EARTH DO DATING METHODS PROVE  
EARTH IS MILLIONS OF YEARS OLD WHO WAS CAIN'S  
HOW DID NOAH FIT ALL THE ANIMALS ON THE ARK WAS  
REALLY A WORLD WIDE FLOOD DOES ANY REAL SC  
BELIEVE IN CREATION ARE  
LINKS CAN'T A DAY MEAN  
WHAT ABOUT NATURAL  
THE RACES COME FROM  
THERE REALLY  
MILLIONS OF  
SELECTION WH  
WHAT ABOUT  
STARLIGHT AF  
REAL DID GO  
EVOLUTION WHAT  
THE SIMILARITIES BE  
MONKEY AND HUMAN  
WHAT ABOUT THE ICE AGE WE  
ADAM AND EVE REAL PEOPLE  
WHO CARES WHAT I BELIEVE  
ABOUT ORIGINS DON'T  
FOSSILS TAKE MANY  
MILLIONS OF YEARS  
TO FORM WHAT ABOUT  
DINOSAURS

## Question Evolution! ARE YOU READY FOR ANSWERS?



Don't  
miss  
out!

Friday 29 July at 7.30pm

### ***Creation: A Key to the Gospel***

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church  
47 Davis Rd, Attadale

**Enquiries:** Phone Ps Mark Chen on 0415 932 373

*Admission free - donations accepted. Creation resources available.*

 **CREATION  
MINISTRIES  
INTERNATIONAL**

**CREATION.com**

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