



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 21 August 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	19 - <i>The God of Abraham Praise</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 81:1-16
Hymn	TP 51:1-6,14-17
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Nehemiah 9:1-38
Hymn	463 - <i>All That Thrills My Soul</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Kingdom Revival II"
*Closing Hymn	485 - <i>Revive Us Again</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

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The History of and Lessons from Revival (Part I)

Do Revivals Happen?

What is a revival and do revivals happen? There are 3 schools of thought.

The first school of thought teaches that there is no Biblical basis for revivals.

On Pentecost, the Spirit was given in the fullest measure, and so he is now part of the church's inheritance. No revival is necessary because the church has been revived.

This is primarily the teaching of certain segments of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Abraham Kuyper writes, *"Prayer for another outpouring or baptism of the Holy Spirit is incorrect and empty of real meaning. Such prayer actually denies the Pentecost miracle. For He that came and abides with us can no more come."*

The second school of thought teaches that revival is conditional upon the obedience of the church and the behavior of Christians.

Hence, revivals can be brought about by intense and prayerful evangelistic effort. This is the position of many Arminian and Pentecostal/Charismatic churches.

Charles Finney said that God *"has placed His Spirit at your disposal. You see why you do not have a revival. It is only because you do not want one. Because you are neither praying for it, nor feeling anxious about it, nor putting forth efforts for it."*

The third school of thought teaches that revivals are a larger measure of the giving of the Spirit.

Since Pentecost, the Spirit's work in his church can be either normal or more extraordinary (Acts 2:4, Acts 4:31, Eph 1:7, Eph 3:16) as God sovereignly wills.

There are times when God works in ordinary ways through his Spirit convicting the church and bringing about growth.

There are other times when God works in more extraordinary ways - where consecration and conversions are greater than other times.

This is the general position of Presbyterian and Reformed churches. John Knox explains the Reformation in this way - *"God gave his Holy Spirit to simple men in great abundance."*

What Is Revival?

A revival is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, *"brought about by the intercession of Christ, resulting in a new degree of life in the churches and a widespread movement of grace among the unconverted. It is an extraordinary communication of the Spirit of God, a superabundance of the Spirit's operations, and enlargement of his manifest power"* (from John Murray, *Pentecost Today*, Banner of Truth, Edinburgh, 1998, p. 24).

Revivals are a sovereign act of God. Revivals always begin in the church and spill over into the world.

Charles Spurgeon writes, *"To be revived is a blessing which can only be enjoyed by those who have some degree of life. Those who have no spiritual life are not, and cannot be, in the strictest sense of the term subjects of a revival...A true revival is to be looked for in the Church of God."*

You cannot revive the world which is dead in trespasses and sins. But you can revive where there is life.

And the evidences of revival in the church are very clear. Brian Edwards says, "A true Holy Spirit revival is a remarkable increase in the spiritual life of a large number of God's people, accompanied by an awesome awareness of the presence of God, intensity of prayer and praise, a deep conviction of sins with a passionate longing for holiness and unusual effectiveness in evangelism, leading to the salvation of many unbelievers."

And because there is revival in the church, it leads to more intensive and evangelistic work in the world.

Revivals and Ordinary Times Contrasted

Revivals are not brought about by the fulfillment of conditions. These special seasons are determined in heaven.

But what happens in revivals is not something miraculously different from the regular experiences of the church.

Certainly, it is more intense - but not miraculous. In ordinary times, God works in the lives of believers. The difference lies in degree, not in kind.

In revival, spiritual influence is more widespread, convictions are deeper, and feelings more intense, but all this is only a heightening of normal Christianity.

True revivals are 'extraordinary', yet what is experienced at such times is not different in essence from the spiritual experience that belongs to Christians at other times.

Revivals brought salvation to a larger number of the lost and gave Christians a greater understanding of the glory of Christ. They also stirred them to greater fervent piety.

Conclusion

God is sovereign - he often sends revival for the sake of his church and also for his own glory.

Is the church to expect revival? More personally - are we to desire revival as a means to stir us up into obedience and service toward God?

While we pray that God would be pleased to send revival to us, the responsibility of using the normal means of grace to spur us on to obedience and serve are no less effective. ~ *Pastor*



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 90. What shall be done to the righteous after their resurrection?

A. After the resurrection, the righteous, being caught up to Christ in the clouds; shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted: shall join with him in the millennial reign, and the judging of reprobate men and angels: and shall be received into heaven, where they shall be fully and for ever freed from all sin and misery; filled with inconceivable joys; made perfectly holy and happy both in body and soul, in the company of innumerable saints and angels; but especially in the immediate vision and fruition of God the Father, of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, to all eternity And this is the perfect and full communion, which the members of the invisible Church shall enjoy with Christ in glory, at the resurrection and day of judgment.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (21.8.16)	Next Week (28.8.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Glen Lock
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Jacob Woo
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Elizabeth Huang
Welcomers	Jacob & Merilyn Woo	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	Jansen Ng*, Ken Hong* Ian Read, Yen Fye Yap	John E Tan*, LH Chua* Kim Leow, David Pang
Usher	Joyce Ng, Jerome Ng	Eva Chiu, Jesslyn Leow
Kitchen Duties	Sandy Chua*, Helen Wong, Chris Budiman	Grace Wang*, Lydia Orchard, Jenni Budiman
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>26 August 2016</i>	<i>2 September 2016</i>
Facilitator	Johnson Lim	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Jerome Ng

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 messenger is Pastor Glen Lock.
3. Next week's Junior Worship message - "God Delivers His People" (Esther 8.1-10.3). Speaker - Vincent Chiu.
4. Adult Sunday School is in recess next week.
5. Ladies' Bible Study. 7:30 pm, Saturday 27 August 2016 at the residence of Colleen Chan. For more information, please contact Evelyn Lee at 0403 504 186.
6. Vacation Bible School. 3-5 October 2016 (Mon-Wed). 9am - 12.15pm. Theme: "God's Top Ten." Registration commences today. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Volunteers needed! Please see Valerie Ong if you can help.
7. Bible-Presbyterian Pastors' & Elders' Retreat. 26-28 August 2016. Pastors and elders from Covenant, Ebenezer, Hope, and Providence Bible-Presbyterian Churches will meet in Adelaide to foster fellowship and unity. Please be in prayer for Mark and Jimmy, and the rest as they attend this event.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF 7:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study SUN 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	<i>General Fund</i> - \$4,005.90 (#600 - \$800.00, #601 - 20.00, #602 - \$25.50). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$592.50 (#603 - \$47.50, #604 - \$105.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$200.00 (#387 - \$200.00). <i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$4,798.40. <i>Attendance</i> - 165.

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$69,095.39
Outstanding Pledges	\$2,365.00
Last Week's Collection	\$200.00
Total	\$71,660.39
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$344,339.61
Building Fund Account:	
Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church	
(Westpac Bank, Applecross)	
BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969	
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.

Kingdom Revival II
Nehemiah 9:1-38

There is no revival without the Word of God. Revivals were marked by love for the Word. Revivals were also marked by repentance. There can be no personal spiritual revival without a thorough going repentance on our part from our sin.

1. Genuine Repentance Is Accompanied by Authenticity and Brokenness
 - a. Authentic
 - i. Persistent
 - ii. Comprehensive
 - b. Brokenness
 - i. Demonstrated
 - ii. Engaged heart
2. Genuine Repentance Owns Up to Personal Rebellion
 - a. In light of God's grace
 - b. Took personal responsibility
3. Genuine Repentance Accepts the Consequences of Sin
 - a. The people of Jerusalem
 - b. David
 - c. Thief

What has God done for you that should cause you to repent readily?

Questions for Reflection:

1. Look up 2 Corinthians 7:10-11. Why is godly sorrow so important? And why should godly sorrow produce earnestness (carefulness, KJV)?
2. Think back through your own history with God. What key times can you point to as evidence of His goodness? In light of His past faithfulness, what present gripping sin must you repent of?
3. We know that repentance is genuine when discipline is not resented; but rather when it is seen as a reflection of the character of a righteous God. Do you agree? Why would some not accept the punishment or discipline?