



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 28 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	291 - <i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Joshua 24:14-28
Hymn	TP 65:1-5
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Luke 14:25-35
Hymn	394 - <i>I Surrender All</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Life of Spiritual Sacrifice"
*Closing Hymn	341 - <i>Something for Thee</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

Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

The History of and Lessons from Revival (Part II)

Introduction

Revivals are a larger measure of the giving of the Spirit. They are sovereignly given to God's people by God according to his good pleasure.

Revivals always begin in the church and spill over into the world. What begins as an intensity in prayer, praise, repentance, and desire for holiness will eventually lead to more intense and evangelistic work in the world.

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

In ordinary times, there is still prayer, praise, repentance, pursuit of holiness, and evangelism.

But in times of revival, God is pleased to pour out his Spirit greatly and these things are increased.

But why is there a great outpouring? Why is it necessary for God to do so when these things should already be happening.

The reason - these things are not happening as they should be.

Before Revivals Happened

Almost every revival in history was characterized by great apathy to the things of God.

People were not walking as they should, spiritual life was at an all time spiritual low, and the people as well as the leaders were practicing sin.

We see this in 716 BC when Hezekiah ascended the throne. He was a young king of 25 years. His father was Ahaz - a godless man. The age in which he lived was also very godless.

2 Kings 17:41 reveals that while they served God, they also served idols - "*So these nations feared the LORD, and*

served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day."

They were trying to serve 2 masters. And when Hezekiah came to the throne, things had hit rock bottom.

It was a generation of godless rejection of the Word of God. Religious life was at a low ebb, the temple was closed and true worship was gone. Many sins were committed, including child sacrifice to the god Moloch.

This was the case in modern revival history. Before the 1742 Scottish revival in Cambuslang and Kilsyth, spiritual life was at a low ebb.

Before the Welsh revival of 1859, the same problem existed, "*The means of grace had become more or less a formality, made unattractive to the world by the coldness even of its orthodoxy; sinful practices were rampant and carried on openly without any sense of shame; the church was spiritually "asleep," oblivious of its mission to the world, and satisfied with its lukewarmness. The prayer meetings were not burdened for the souls of the unconverted."*

In New England prior to 1733, Jonathan Edwards complained of '*a time of extraordinary dullness in religion*'.

This is what he said of the spiritual condition prior in the town of Northampton, "*The greater part seemed to be at that time insensible of the things of religion, and engaged in other pursuits...it seemed to be a time of extraordinary dullness in religion."*

Ministers were no less guilty - but more. According to reports of the time, clergy were sunk in worldliness.

They hunted, they shot, they farmed, they swore, they drank, they gambled. While hunting, shooting, and farming might be legitimate pursuits, the others showed that their tongues, their minds, and their hearts were not subdued by the gospel.

They seemed determined to know everything except Jesus Christ and him crucified. They preached as little as possible, and when they did, their sermons were indescribably bad, and were generally preached to empty benches.

The religious and moral condition prior to the Great Awakenings of the 18th century was the same on both sides of the Atlantic.

England seemed barren of all that is really good. Christianity seemed to lie as one dead. Morality, was the theme of the pulpits, but was trampled under foot in the streets.

A Modern Parallel and Analysis

Sadly, this is all too descriptive of our own day. Missions are desperate for new workers and for funds. Ministers have to plead with their members to attend the prayer meeting.

There is also a general lack of family religion. Many are hooked on TV and sports. And meanwhile, Christians lament at the state of church or nation, not realizing that their own stupor has contributed to that very slumber.

While Christians may not literally sacrifice our children, we may sacrifice them on the altars of many other "gods" like academics or entertainment.

Christians may come week after week to hear God's Word, but we may reject its practical applications.

Christians may be involved in religious activities, but we may have a lack of deep commitment when it comes to holy living.

But many assuage their conscience by much church activity. Or criticizing the lack of church activity, but meanwhile neglecting the means of grace that are already present. Or lamenting that "morality" is not emphasized enough from the pulpits.

When society no longer thinks of eternity, it almost goes without saying that it is because the church no longer thinks that way either.

There is little about us to convince the world that we are motivated for eternity when we are so concerned about our time here on earth. .

Are we in need of a revival? Always. Would God send one? We do not know. But what we know is this - that we are to be obedient to his revealed will.

If we but pray, obey, worship, and live holy lives, no greater revival is needed, for our souls are all ordinarily revived.

May the Lord work greater obedience and dedication to him. ~ *Pastor*



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 91. What is the duty which God requireth of man?

A. The duty which God requireth of man, is obedience to his revealed will.

Q. 92. What did God at first reveal unto man as the rule of his obedience?

A. The rule of obedience revealed to Adam in the estate of innocence, and to all mankind in him, besides a special command, not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, was the moral law.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (28.8.16)	Next Week (4.9.16)
Speaker	Glen Lock	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jacob Woo	Mark Chen
Pianist	Elizabeth Huang	Ian Tay
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Yen Fye & Angela Yap
Offering Stewards	John E Tan*, LH Chua* Kim Leow, David Pang	Steven Lim*, Ken Chong* Micah Chiang, Chris Budiman
Usher	Eva Chiu, Jesslyn Leow	Josephine Austin, Marilyn Woo
Kitchen Duties	Grace Wang*, Lydia Orchard, Jenni Budiman	Angela Yap*, August Ng, Eva Chiu, Jackie Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>2 September 2016</i>	<i>9 September 2016</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Jerome Ng	Nancy 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. We will be celebrating Lord's Supper next Lord's Day. Please bring a dish to share at the fellowship lunch.
3. Next week's message: "Kingdom Revival III" (Nehemiah 10:1-39).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "What Christians Should Be Known For" (Colossians 1.1-8). Speaker - Jansen Ng.
5. Retirees' Bible Study. 10 am, Tuesday 30 August 2016. Topic: "The Lord's Supper." Please contact Yen Fye Yap at 0419 915 874.
6. Vacation Bible School. 3-5 October 2016 (Mon-Wed). 9am - 12.15pm. Theme: "God's Top Ten." Registration ends 18 September. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Volunteers needed! Please see Ken Chong or Valerie Ong if you can help.
7. Parents, of children attending Junior Worship, may obtain a copy of the message lesson plans by contacting Pastor. These can be used to reinforce the message.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
TUE 10:00 am Retirees' Bible Study	<i>General Fund</i> - \$2,780.75 (#606 - \$11.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$455.00 (#605 - \$145.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$5.00 (#388 - \$5.00). <i>Total</i> <i>Tithes & Offering</i> - \$3,240.75. Attendance - 154.
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	
FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$69,295.39
Outstanding Pledges	\$2,360.00
Last Week's Collection	\$5.00
Total	\$71,660.39
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$416,000.00</i>
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$344,339.61</i>
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.