



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 18 September 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	58 - <i>Jesus the Very Thought of Thee</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Revelation 5:1-14
Hymn	498 - <i>When We All Get to Heaven</i>
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Nehemiah 12:27-47
Hymn	TP 48:1-7,9-14
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Rejoicing for the Kingdom"
*Closing Hymn	13 - <i>Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty</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 IV)

Introduction

Are you discouraged spiritually? Are you discouraged about the spiritual condition of the church? Understanding the history of revivals can be a helpful antidote to discouragement.

In learning about past revivals, we are reminded that God can very quickly remove hindrances and obstacles to salvation and genuine church growth.

Furthermore, remembering the history of revivals can help to prevent us from setting our sights too low or to fret when it doesn't come quickly.

Knowing what God can do in revivals should propel us to more prayer. The Lord may be pleased to send revival when we pray; but even if God doesn't send revival, he will work through prayer.

The Importance of Prayer in Revival

When the Jews were in Babylon, and when they thought about their destroyed city and temple, they did not cease to pray for Zion. And so, if we desire for revival, we need to be brought before God to seek it.

God Has Times of Deliverance Planned In Response to the Prayers of His People

When we think about the first exodus - when God delivered Israel from Egypt, it was something that he had planned.

Exodus 2:23-25 tells us that he remembered his covenant with Israel and kept his promise to send a deliverer, because the people cried out to God.

Similarly, Jeremiah 29:10-14 tells us that God would send deliverance to his people in Babylon after 70 years if the people would pray and seek God with all their heart.

Likewise, the prophet Daniel remembered God's promise at the end of 70 years; and he agonized and cried out to God, seeking God by prayer and mourning (Daniel 9:2).

Instead of making God's promise as an excuse for indifference, Daniel took it as an incentive to pray for the deliverance that God had already promised.

The men that God used in bringing about his revival were always men bold in prayer.

Prayer Brings Revival

On the day of Pentecost, before the Spirit was poured out, the disciples were earnest in prayer (Acts 1:14).

In the Great Awakening of the 18th century, it was preceded by a large and extraordinary measure of prayer.

Jonathan Edwards published a book for the express purpose of supporting the need for prayer.

In 1739, David Brainerd wrestled with God all night for his North American Indians: *"I exceedingly longed that God would get to Himself a name among the heathen...I cared not where or how I lived, or what hardships I went through, so that I could but gain souls to Christ. I continued in this frame all the night. When I was asleep I dreamt of these things, and when I waked (as I frequently did), the first thing I thought of was this great work of pleading for God against Satan."*

John Wesley recalled that in a meeting in Feters Lane, with his brother Charles and George Whitfield, *"About three in the morning as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell to the ground."*

Jeremiah Lanphier, the New York businessman who became a city missionary, sent out an ad in the mid 1800s for a noon-day prayer meeting. Within 6 months, 10,000 businessmen were meeting everyday for prayer.

At the same time in Northern Ireland, James McQuilken had been converted in

1856. And for the next 2 years, he met with 3 others to pray each Friday. They prayed for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon themselves and the surrounding country.

The following year, some 100,000 people were converted throughout Ulster.

The first hint of revival is frequently a stirring in the life of prayer in the church. And it is frequently the example of the leaders that brings about this burden for prayer in the church.

Prayer is both the cause and the result of the coming of the Spirit in revival.

Prayer Meetings

All revival begins and continues in the prayer meeting. Before revival the prayer meeting is not always attended by many; sometimes only by a few, but someone is always praying.

When revival comes the prayer meeting is among the first to benefit.

The prayer meeting becomes the focal point of the Church, and Christians who had avoided the prayer meeting for years would now long for the next occasion to call upon God.

Robert Murray McCheyne commented on the number of prayer meetings he found in his church in Dundee in 1839 - "*I found thirty-nine such meetings held recently in connection with the congregation, and five of these were conducted and attended entirely by little children.*"

In revival, prayer becomes a delight and a joy.

A Modern Parallel and Analysis

It is obvious that many have a desire for the church and God's kingdom. There is a desire for the spirituality of the church. There is a burden for the people.

The place to start is always in prayer. It is ironic that we can lament over the coldness of a church but dedicate so little personal commitment to the discipline of prayer and the prayer meeting of the church.

The place where this burden must start in the church is among the leaders. And the place where they will gather is the prayer meeting. May the Lord be pleased to revive his church, her leaders, and her people. ~ *Pastor*



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 96. What particular use is there of the moral law to unregenerate men?

A. The moral law is of use to unregenerate men, to awaken their consciences to flee from the wrath to come, and to drive them to Christ, or, upon their continuance in the estate and way of sin, to leave them inexcusable, and under the curse thereof.

Q. 97. What special use is there of the moral law to the regenerate?

A. Although they that are regenerate and believe in Christ, be delivered from the moral law as a covenant of works, so as thereby they are neither justified nor condemned; yet, beside the general uses thereof common to them with all men, it is of special use to show them how much they are bound to Christ for his fulfilling it, and enduring the curse thereof in their stead, and for their good; and thereby to provoke them to more thankfulness, and to express the same in their greater care to conform themselves thereunto as the rule of their obedience.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (18.9.16)	Next Week (25.9.16)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Ken Chong	Terence Lee
Pianist	Nancy Lim	Edward Lim
Welcomers	Ian & Merrill Read	Josephine Austin & Wendy Gong
Offering Stewards	Yen Fye Yap*, Paul Butler* Ian Read, Jansen Ng	Kim Leow*, David Pang* Vincent Chiu, Ken Hong
Usher	Jerome Ng, Jemima Ng	Jesslyn Leow, Joyce Ng
Kitchen Duties	Florence Orchard*, May Poon, Ken Hong	Aliza Chiu*, Lydia Orchard, Julian Poon
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>23 September 2016</i>	<i>30 September 2016</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
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 message: "Continual Problems in Kingdom Building" (Nehemiah 13:1-31).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message - "God Can Change Me" (Colossians 1.21-23). Speaker - Marilyn Woo.
4. Ladies' Bible Study. Saturday 24 September 2016, 7:30 pm at the residence of Carmel Sriharan. Please contact Evelyn Lee at 0403 504 186 for more info.
5. Vacation Bible School. 3-5 October 2016 (Mon-Wed). 9am - 12.15pm. Theme: "God's Top Ten." Registration ends today. Registration forms are available in the foyer. Volunteers needed! Please contact Ken Chong or Valerie Ong.
6. Combined Youth Camp. "Living as Christians in a Non-Christian World." 1-3 December at Serpentine Camping Centre. Speaker: Pastor Ron Nugent. Fee: \$55. For more information, see Eugene Lim or Jerome Ng.
7. **Notice of the 7th Annual General Meeting.** Date: Sunday, 25 September 2016. Time: 11:30 pm sharp. Venue: 47 Davis Road, Attadale, WA 6156. Please collect your AGM papers from Terence Lee or Ken Chong.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance																
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">WED</td> <td style="width: 10%;">10:00 am</td> <td style="width: 80%;">Craft Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FRI</td> <td>7:45 pm</td> <td>CBI & Prayer Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">SAT</td> <td>4:30 pm</td> <td>JF & TF</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7:30 pm</td> <td>Ladies' Bible Study</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">SUN</td> <td>9:00 am</td> <td>Sunday School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10:00 am</td> <td>Worship Service</td> </tr> </table>	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	<p><i>General Fund</i> - \$3,034.90 (#613 - \$64.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$1,190 (#614 - \$750.00, #615 - \$100.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$655.00 (#392 - \$655.00). <i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$4,879.90. Attendance - 161.</p>
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	10:00 am	Worship Service															

Building Fund to Date		
Available Building Fund	\$69,960.39	Building Fund Account:
Outstanding Pledges	\$1,050.00	
Last Week's Collection	\$655.00	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
Total	\$71,660.39	(Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00	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.

Rejoicing for the Kingdom
Nehemiah 12:27-47

What is the appropriate response of a people who have been revived by God's Word, led to repentance, helped to make resolutions towards obedience, and saved to serve God? There will be worship. Mature Christians love to worship Christ.

1. When We Worship God, We Must Come to God with Preparation
 - a. They planned for their worship
 - b. They purified themselves for worship
2. When We Worship God, We Must Prioritize Joyful Praise
 - a. Praise is what we give God in worship
 - b. Their praise was extravagant
 - c. Their praise was joyful
3. When We Worship God, We Must Remember the Gospel
 - a. Worship is fueled by the remembrance of past troubles
 - b. Worship is fueled by the remembrance of deliverance

Why do we worship Christ? Because he was slain for us. Praise is not something that God merely commands - it is a barometer of our own spiritual desires and spiritual health. When we are cold, praise feels cold. When we are revived, praise is joyful.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Chapter 12 describes joyful worship occurring after the people have repented and taken an oath. How are faithfulness and repentance linked to joyful worship?
2. Do you feel great joy during worship? What act of faithfulness or repentance might add to your joy?
3. Read and reflect on Psalm 48:9-14, a song reflecting on a similar time of celebration. What truths about God are celebrated?