



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 4 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 | 61 - <i>O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus</i> |
| *Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i> | |
| Scripture Reading | Revelation 21:1-27 |
| The Lord's Supper | |
| Hymn | 191 - <i>Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face</i> |
| Hymn | 496 - <i>Victory in Jesus</i> |
| Tithes & Offering | |
| **† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer | |
| Scripture Reading | Nehemiah 9:38-10:39 |
| Hymn | TP 101 |
| Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer | |
| Sermon | "Kingdom Revival III" |
| *Closing Hymn | 389 - <i>I Am Resolved</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 III)

Introduction

Revivals are borne of God. But God typically sends revivals during times when his people are apathetic to the things of God.

This happened very clearly in biblical history during the time of Hezekiah. Similarly in church history - spiritual apathy was very evident just before the Scottish Revival, the Welsh Revival, and the Great Awakening in New England.

They were times of extraordinary dullness in religion. The people were unfaithful and worldly and even the ministers of God were not interested in the things of God.

Unfortunately, these are the things we see today. Many Christians, even in Bible-believing churches, are far more interested in their own lives than the spirituality of the church. Religion can often be quite formal at these times.

Christians may be involved in religious activities, but there is a lack of deep commitment to holy living.

But it was in such a climate that revival came upon the people of God. Would God be pleased to bring revival to us?

The Agency of Revival - Men Obedient to the Word

Revival came when men took the Word of God seriously and were obedient to it.

We are told in 2 Chronicles 29:2 that Hezekiah *"did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done."*

Or, as we read in 2 Kings 18:6, *"he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following him, but kept his*

commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses."

The word of God mattered to Hezekiah. He was concerned to know what God's word had to say to him.

They Searched God's Word and Submitted Themselves to It

All who have been used in revival were diligent in the study of Scripture and the application of Scripture in their own lives. God uses men who submit to his authority.

George Whitfield writes, *"I began to read the Holy Scriptures upon my knees, laying aside all other books and praying over, if possible, every line and word."*

"This proved meat indeed and drink indeed to my soul. I daily received fresh light and power from above. I got more true knowledge from reading the book of God in one month than I could ever have acquired from all the writings of men."

The men God used in revival did not merely pay lip-service to the authority of Scripture. They aligned their lives to it. There was personal conviction.

Indeed, they had a fear of being disobedient. They taught what they believed; and they believed that which they obeyed.

They Taught What They Learned

JC Ryle said of them - *"They taught one set of truths; they taught them in the same way, with fire, reality, earnestness, as men convinced of what they taught."*

"They taught them in the same spirit, always loving, compassionate, and like Paul, even weeping, but always bold,

unflinching, and not fearing the face of man.

"They did not wait for sinners to come to them, but went after sinners and assaulting the high places of ungodliness like men storming a breach and giving sinners no rest so long as they stuck to their sins.

"Many were aroused and awakened to think about religion; many were shamed out of their sins; many were restrained and frightened at their own ungodliness."

Their teaching and ministry had power because they obeyed. They were convicted of what they believed in and shared their convictions with others.

There was moral courage. In bad times, they remained obedient. In times of godlessness, they remained devoted to God. In times of inconstancy, they were constant in their calling.

That's why there was effectiveness.

Revival begins with those who stand firm, like Hezekiah, in an age of godless rejection, in an age when people do what is right in their own eyes.

In the words of Dr David Allen, of the Trinitarian Bible Society, *"It begins with the man who stands for that which is true and right and good; but it also requires a man who can see what the state of the church and the nation really is. Hezekiah knew how long the spiritual life of the nation had sunk. Revival*

requires not only a man who remains faithful and is aware of reality, but one who cares."

A Modern Parallel and Analysis

It is obvious that many Christians have a desire for God's kingdom and church.

It is obvious that many Christians care for the state of the church and are alarmed at the state of affairs.

However, not all are prepared to submit to the Word. There's conviction, but not enough that it becomes personal. As such, they do not align their lives to it, even though they expect others to change.

Ministers are especially guilty - we may know what the Word says - and labor that others are conformed to it - but unfortunately, we don't always align our own lives to it. There will be no effectiveness without doing this.

Because conformation is a tedious and long drawn out process, we don't always stay the course. Not only does it require ministers who care, who would stand for what is right, but also to stay the course. If revival requires faithfulness, change will not come otherwise.

In other words, if you want change, you must change. If you want faithfulness, you must be faithful. Just as these men were gripped by God's Word and change resulted, so too, may the Lord grip our hearts and change us. ~ Pastor



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 93. What is the moral law?

A. The moral law is the declaration of the will of God to mankind directing and binding every one to personal, perfect, and perpetual conformity and obedience thereunto, in the frame and disposition of the whole man, soul and body, and in performance of all those duties of holiness and righteousness which he oweth to God and man: promising life upon the fulfilling, and threatening death upon the breach of it.

Worship Service Roster

| Service | This Week (4.9.16) | Next Week (11.9.16) |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Speaker | Mark Chen | Mark Chen |
| Worship Leader | Mark Chen | Chris Budiman |
| Pianist | Ian Tay | Evelyn Lee |
| Welcomers | Yen Fye & Angela Yap | Kim & Jesslyn Leow |
| Offering Stewards | Steven Lim*, Ken Chong* Micah Chiang, Chris Budiman | Terence Lee*, David Lim* Jacob Woo, Rex Sriharan |
| Usher | Josephine Austin, Marilyn Woo | Angela Yap, August Ng |
| Kitchen Duties | Angela Yap*, August Ng, Eva Chiu, Jackie Hong | Marilyn Woo*, Victor Poon, Rosemary Fitzpatrick |
| <i>Prayer Meeting</i> | <i>9 September 2016</i> | <i>16 September 2016</i> |
| Facilitator | Mark Chen | Mark Chen |
| Pianist | Nancy Lim | Ian Tay |

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 are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. First time visitors wishing to partake the Lord's Supper should see an elder before the service.
3. Next week's message: "Everyone in Ministry" (Nehemiah 11:1-12:26).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "The Secret to Spiritual Growth" (Colossians 1.9-14). Speaker - John Tan.
5. Men's Bible Study. Saturday 10 September 2016, 7:30 pm at the residence of Ian Tay. For more information, please contact Vincent Chiu at 0417 929 149.
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 contact Ken Chong or Valerie Ong.
7. Combined Youth Camp. "Living as Christians in a Non-Christian World." 1-3 December. Speaker: Pastor Ron Nugent. For more information, see Eugene or Jerome.
8. 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.
9. Busy Bee, Saturday, 10 September 2016, 9:30 am, for verge collection.

| 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: 15%;">10:00 am</td> <td>Craft Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FRI</td> <td>7:45 pm</td> <td>CBI & Prayer Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SAT</td> <td>4:30 pm</td> <td>JF & TF</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>7:30 pm</td> <td>Men's Bible Study</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SUN</td> <td>9:00 am</td> <td>Sunday School</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <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 | Men's Bible Study | SUN | 9:00 am | Sunday School | | 10:00 am | Worship Service | <p><i>General Fund</i> - \$3,471.10 (#607 - \$400.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$540.00 (#608 - \$150.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$555.00 (#389 - \$555.00). <i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$4,566.10. Attendance - 147.</p> |
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| SUN | 9:00 am | Sunday School | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10:00 am | Worship Service | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Building Fund to Date | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Available Building Fund | \$69,300.39 | Building Fund Account: |
| Outstanding Pledges | \$1,805.00 | Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church |
| Last Week's Collection | \$555.00 | (Westpac Bank, Applecross) |
| Total | \$71,660.39 | BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969 |
| <i>Outstanding Loan</i> | - \$416,000.00 | SWIFT: WPACAU2S |
| <i>Amount Still Needed</i> | \$344,339.61 | |

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 III

Nehemiah 10:1-39

When a person is revived by God, not only will there be a love for the Word, a repentance that is obvious, but radical obedience. When a church, when a nation, when an individual is revived by God, there will be obedience - there will be a desire to be holy.

1. Radical Resolution to Pursue Holiness
 - a. Radical
 - b. Pursue holiness
 - c. Comprehensive and intense
2. Resolution to Maintain the Purity of Christian Marriage and Witness
 - a. They had married unbelievers
 - b. Solomon had married unbelievers
 - c. Spiritual integrity
3. Resolution to Love the Lord and the Lord's Day
 - a. Sabbath sign
 - b. Jesus as Sabbath fulfillment
4. Resolution to Love God's Kingdom and Fellowship
 - a. Support ministries
 - b. Invest in fellowship

As we will be pure bride one day, we keep our marriages pure. As we will go to our eternal rest with Christ one day, we must love the Lord and His Day. As we will have intimate fellowship with Christ in his eternal kingdom, we must love the church today.

Questions for Reflection:

1. The Israelites turn repentance into action by committing to change the way they handle relationships, time and money. Which of these areas in your life needs to be impacted by repentance and change? Note a specific change you can make in each area.
2. The final thought that close out the covenant at the end of chapter 10 is "we will not neglect (forsake) our God's house." If this was written in a positive way, what would be the opposite of "forsake?" What can you do personally to fulfill this "we will" statement?