



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 7 January 2018

Theme for the Year: "King Jesus Must Reign" (1 Corinthians 15:25)

| | |
|--|---|
| Prelude | <i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i> |
| Call to Worship | |
| *Opening Hymn | TP 65:1-4, 11-13 |
| *Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i> | |
| Scripture Reading | 1 John 5:1-21 |
| The Lord's Supper | |
| Hymn | 228 - <i>Communion Hymn</i> |
| Hymn | 718 - <i>Jesus Bids Us Shine</i> |
| Tithes & Offering | |
| *†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer | |
| Scripture Reading | Acts 19:21-41 |
| Hymn | 542 - <i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i> |
| Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer | |
| Sermon | "When Our Idols Are Threatened" |
| *Closing Hymn | 472 - <i>O for a Closer Walk with God</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

Our Theme for 2018 - King Jesus Must Reign

Jesus Is as Much King as He Is Savior

We frequently refer to Jesus as our Savior - and he is. Even his name means savior.

But we also call him Lord, and rightly so, because he is Jehovah. And he is the king that God has set over his people (Psalm 2:6).

And indeed, his role as Savior cannot be divorced from his role as King. He is a king who saves his people.

When he was on the cross, paying the ransom, a sign was placed atop the cross - Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.

His salvation cannot be divorced from his kingship.

Acts 5:31 says, "*Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and Savior, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.*"

We often forget that we are saved by a king. And therefore toward this king, we owe our love, allegiance, and obedience.

This Saving King Rules Over a People

Every king rules over a people. Who are these people?

They are his church - all who call themselves Christians, who worship God, and who receive the instruction of Word.

These are the people that he has called out of the world and has given them officers to rule over them (Ephesians 4:10-12).

As our saving king, he has given his laws. Isaiah 33:22 says, "*For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver the LORD is our king; he will save us.*"

And there are consequences for those in his church for not keeping his laws (Matthew 18:17-18, 1 Corinthians 5:4-5).

What This Saving King Does for His People?

To all who believe in him, he saves and he rewards their obedience of faith at the last day (Revelation 22:12).

He gives them eternal life and freedom from sin.

And because he has saved them to be his own, he commands them to live for him. 1 Thessalonians 4:13 says, "*For this is the will of God, even your sanctification.*"

And when they fail, and they often will because they are weak, Christ rebukes them and chastens them. He does this out of love that they may repent and live again for his glory (Revelation 3:19).

But at the same time, because of his love for them, and as their king, he will "*preserve and support them under all their temptations and sufferings*" (WLC 45).

He feels for his people (Hebrews 4:15) and he supports them. "*In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old*" (Isaiah 63:9).

So Christ doesn't simply rule them so that they can keep his laws; but he rules them as a king to take care of them.

And Christ will one day vindicate his people and himself by dealing with Satan - the enemy of the elect, who is his enemy as well (1 Corinthians 15:25).

A Saved People Love Their Savior King Because He Loved Them First

What is the response of this people who are saved by their king, taught by their

king, helped by their king, and vindicated by their king?

They will love their king and they will obey his commandments. John 14:15 says, *"If ye love me, keep my commandments."*

But we want to note that our obedience to this king is not one merely of exerting ourselves to be obedient. Ours is not the usual obedience of a fearful subject to his king.

And anyway, this is not the Christian way to holiness. It is not by mere exertion and will. If we think this way, and do it this way, we will fail!

We remember that this king is also our lover - he is the lover of our soul. 1 John 4:19 says that we love him because he first loved us.

It is like a marriage relationship (Song of Solomon 6:3).

Martin Luther said of our relationship with our loving Savior King - "Who then can fully appreciate what this royal marriage means? Who can understand the riches of the glory of this grace? Here this rich and divine bridegroom Christ marries this poor, wicked harlot, redeems her from all her evil, and adorns her with all his goodness. Her sins cannot now destroy her, since they are laid upon Christ and swallowed up by him. And she has that righteousness in Christ, her husband, of which she may boast as of her own and which she can confidently display alongside her sins in the face of death and hell and say, 'If I have sinned, yet my Christ, in whom I believe, has not sinned, and all

his is mine and all mine is his,' as the bride in the Song of Solomon says, 'My beloved is mine and I am his.'"

Daniel and his 3 friends lived for Christ in Babylon even though they were far removed from Jerusalem. Despite being far from home, away from parents, away from the temple, and surrounded by the allures of Babylon, they still continued in their devotion to Christ.

Was it because they were operating by sheer exertion of obedience? Was it because they were simply motivated by a dread toward their Divine King? Or was it because they loved Christ?

And we must realize this - it wasn't the law that motivated them. It wasn't that life in Babylon was so delicious, that they had to counteract it and suppress it with the law.

They weren't hungering to partake in stolen waters; they weren't hankering after unclean food and wine.

It was because they were united to Christ, that these foods repulsed them. Love for Christ kept them holy.

What fuels our obedience? Is it fear? If we operate by fear, we don't understand this Savior King to whom we are united.

But if we love him because he has saved us and rules over us, keeping his commandments is not grievous.

The challenge for us this year is to know that Christ is our Savior - let us be grateful. He is also our King - let us not be presumptuous in living. But he is also our Beloved - our loyalty lies with him because we love him. ~ *Pastor*



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 185. How are we to pray?

A. We are to pray with an awful apprehension of the majesty of God, and deep sense of our own unworthiness, necessities, and sins; with penitent, thankful, and enlarged hearts; with understanding, faith, sincerity, fervency, love, and perseverance, waiting upon him, with humble submission to his will.

Worship Service Roster

| Service | This Week (7.1.18) | Next Week (14.1.18) |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Speaker | Mark Chen | Mark Chen |
| Worship Leader | Mark Chen | Jimmy Orchard |
| Pianist | Ian Tay | Edward Lim |
| Welcomers | Yen Fye & Angela Yap | Josephine Austin & Wendy Gong |
| Offering Stewards | David Lim*, Terence Lee* Steven Lim, Johnny Orchard | Paul Butler*, John Tan* Lye Heng Chua, Yen Fye Yap |
| Ushers | Putri Harapan, Jemima Ng | Joyce Ng, Jerome Ng |
| Kitchen Duties | August Ng*, Nancy Lim Angela Yap, Victor Poon | Jackie Hong*, Aliza Chiu Debbie Blake |
| PA Duty | Raymond Woo | Ian Tay |
| Prayer Meeting | 12 January 2018 | 19 January 2018 |
| 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. 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: "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" (Acts 20:1-16).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "The Christian Race" (Hebrews 12:1-2). Speaker: David Lim.
5. Bible Conference 2018. Dates: 23-26 April 2018. Speaker: Pastor Allen Beardmore. Venue: Hotel Lord Forrest, Bunbury. Please register with Ken Chong or Ken Hong.
6. Bible Study Tour of Israel and Jordan. Dates: 9-21 December 2018. Please contact Pastor Mark if you are interested.
7. Daily Manna and Daily Manna Junior (January-March) are available in the foyer.
8. Church directory and additions/amendments page - please collect from Valerie.

| Appointments for the Week | Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance |
|----------------------------------|--|
| FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting | General Fund - \$2,581.40 (*DD - \$200.00, #763 - \$200.00, #764 - \$100.00). Missions Fund - \$130.00. Building Fund - \$400.00 (*DD - \$400.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$3,111.40. Attendance - 120. *DD: direct deposit |
| SUN 9:00 am Sunday School | |
| 10:00 am Worship Service | |

Building Fund to Date

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Available Building Fund | \$93,501.82 | General Fund: | |
| Last Week's Collection | \$400.00 | BSB: 036-031 | A/C: 316942 |
| Total | \$93,901.82 | Missions Fund: | |
| Outstanding Loan | - \$390,000.00 | BSB: 036-031 | A/C: 316950 |
| Amount Still Needed | \$296,098.18 | Building Fund: | |
| | | BSB: 036-031 | A/C: 316969 |

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.

Deacons: **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206. **Vincent Chiu** 0417 929 149.



C O V E N A N T

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Message Forecast for January - March 2018*

"King Jesus Must Reign" (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Lord's Day Worship Service:

| JAN | Title and Text | Speaker |
|-----|--|----------|
| 7** | When Our Idols Are Threatened (Acts 19:21-41) | MC |
| 14 | Wherever He Leads I'll Go (Acts 20:1-16) | MC |
| 21 | TBA | G Lock |
| 28 | He Kept Back Nothing (Acts 20:17-38) | MC |
| FEB | | |
| 4** | Let God's Will Be Done (Acts 21:1-16) | MC |
| 11 | TBA | K Morris |
| 18 | TBA | R Nugent |
| 25 | Anger and the Idol of the Law (Acts 21:17-29) | MC |
| MAR | | |
| 4** | Where Is Your Citizenship? (Acts 21:30-22:30) | MC |
| 11 | Wily Paul, Surrendered Paul (Acts 23:1-11) | MC |
| 18 | Failed Conspiracy (Acts 23:12-35) | MC |
| 25 | A Clear Conscience before God and Man (Acts 24:1-27) | MC |

* Subject to change

** Lord's Supper

Adult Bible Class:

"Bible Survey" (cont.)

When Our Idols Are Threatened
Acts 19:21-41

Christianity and the gospel will always hit against the natural and carnal way of thinking and doing things. And when there is a conflict, the natural man will always hit back. This can result in the rejection of the gospel, the rejection of the Christian, and a riot. This should not surprise us. It happens in our own hearts, when the gospel confronts our way of life - we often reject it.

1. The Glory of God Revealed in the Gospel
 - a. A great disturbance because of the gospel
 - b. God versus Diana
2. The Idol of Self Is Threatened by the Gospel
 - a. Idols are no gods
 - b. The real idol is self
3. The Heart Is Changed by the Gospel
 - a. Civil laws control only the behavior
 - b. The gospel changes the heart

We are not the first peoples to live in a pluralistic society. With Christian living comes persecution. People may riot against us. But how we respond, is with the same gospel - not by wrathful retaliation. If we are washed by the gospel, our hearts and not merely our behavior must be changed by the gospel.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Do you find yourself focusing more on the behavior of others (like your children) or ministering to their hearts with the gospel?
2. Why does the wrath of man not work the righteousness of God?