



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 1 April 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	162 - <i>Thine Be the Glory</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	1 Corinthians 15:12-28
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	231 - <i>Here, O My Lord, I See Thee</i>
Hymn	156 - <i>Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Today</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Song of Solomon 8:6-7
Hymn	TP 36:6b-10
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Love for Our Savior"
*Closing Hymn	75 - <i>The Love of 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

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Jesus Gives Meaning to Life

The Endless Cycle of Life

What is life all about? You are born so that you can go to school, so that you can get into a better school, so that you can get a good paying job.

You get a good paying job so that you can support yourself and your children, so that your children can go to school so that they can get a good paying job.

And when they are well taken care of, you are assured you can retire well, and spend the rest of your life in relative ease.

But all this is assuming that nothing goes wrong. This is assuming there is no sickness, no tragedy, and no other heartaches. This is assuming that you will do well enough, earn sufficient, and raise your children wisely.

Someone Who Had It All Understood It All

King Solomon had it all.

He was king over Israel during her golden age. He amassed great wealth. Through international trade, he obtained tons of gold.

He was also a shrewd businessman. He bred horses and built chariots for sale.

He was an expert in many academic fields. But he was also a practitioner. He was an expert in animal husbandry, agriculture, botany, landscaping, and architecture.

But by examining his own life and accomplishments, Solomon asked the question - *"What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?"*

What do people really get out of all the hard work they put into this life? And his conclusion was this - we can never truly be satisfied by life on earth.

And because we can't be truly satisfied, everything in life is meaningless.

Hard work does not lead to lasting gain. Metal rusts and wood rots.

Even if you gain substantial wealth, you can't take it with you. Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 5:15 - *"As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand."*

You may leave it behind for your kids. But who knows if they won't squander it away?

And Solomon understood what many people already innately understand. While there is life on earth, there will one day be judgment after death.

In Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, he said, *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."*

And everything you do on earth is meaningless unless you seek after Jesus and his ways. Jesus is the one that gives meaning to life.

Jesus Calls Us to Love Him and Keep His Commandments

It's not to say that legitimate pursuits in life are wrong. They are after all, legitimate.

But God calls us to love him above all other things.

Jesus said to Simon Peter, *"Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?"*

We are to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength.

Indeed, we are to love him more than any other human relation - *"If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and*

brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."

And if we are to love him, we are to keep his commandments. Jesus said in John 14:15 - *"If ye love me, keep my commandments."*

Why does Jesus say these things? Is it because he is megalomaniacal? No. He says it because he is the answer to life's problems.

By Loving Jesus We Gain Everything

Our sinful nature naturally gravitates toward materialism and success.

But what we don't realize is that by seeking these things apart from Jesus, we may certainly gain them - but at what cost?

Mark 8:36 says, *"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"*

In fact, it is the pagans who seek after the material success of the world (Matthew 6:32).

But what happens when we seek after Christ and his kingdom? We gain material blessings. Matthew 6:33 - *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."*

Jesus promised to take care of us. This may not mean that we will be rich or successful. But we will be blessed and content. We will experience life to the fullest as Jesus intended.

He said in John 10:10 - *"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."*



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 7. What are the decrees of God?

A. The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Q. 8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

The Paradox

The paradox is this - if we want to gain the world, we will lose our life. But if we lose our life to Christ, we will gain all things.

Jesus himself said it in Mark 8:35 - *"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it."*

Losing our lives for Christ and the gospel means surrender. We can't live our lives the way we want to - but we must live our lives the way he wants us to.

This is why Jesus said, *"Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."*

Our lives are not ours to live.

But this is especially easier to bear when we realize that Jesus' commandments are not grievous (1 John 5:3) and that his yoke is easy and burden is light (Matthew 11:30).

Is there a struggle in your life to make Jesus first priority in your life? Are you anxious about success in life?

This is the paradox - you won't obtain meaning through success, but you will find meaningful success in Jesus.

Why? He is God. And as God, he makes things right.

Ecclesiastes 7:13 - *"Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked?"*

~ Pastor

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (1.4.18)</i>	<i>Next Week (8.4.18)</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Ian Tay	Nancy Lim
Welcomers	John & Adeline Ng	Yen Fye Yap & Tee Xuan
Offering Stewards	Paul Butler*, Chris Budiman* Steven Lim, Ken Chong	David Lim*, Lye Heng Chua* Rex Sriharan, Jansen Ng
Ushers	Josephine Austin, Rebecca Lee	Putri Harapan, Jerome Ng
Kitchen Duties	Peggy Woo*, Dina Portillo Sarah Lim, May Poon	Grace Wang*, Sandy Chua Josephine Austin
PA Duty	Raymond Woo	Ian Tay
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>6 April 2018</i>	<i>13 April 2018</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Jerome Ng

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. 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: "An Appeal to a Higher Court" (Acts 25:1-27).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message - "Waiting for Jesus' Spirit to Come" (Acts 1:12-26). Speaker: Chris Budiman.
5. Church 8th Anniversary Dinner. North Lake BBQ Restaurant: 406 North Lake Road, Bibra Lake. Date: 28 April 2018 (Saturday). Time: 6:30pm. Subsidised cost: \$20/adult, \$11/child (4-12 years). Please register with Jacob Woo.
6. Daily Manna and Daily Manna Junior (April-June) are available in the foyer.
7. Junior Fellowship, Teens Fellowship and Men's Bible Study are in recess for the month of April.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	General Fund - \$3,792.15 (*DD - \$590.00). Missions Fund - \$170.00. Building Fund - \$500.00 (*DD - \$300.00, #580 - \$200.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,462.15. Attendance - 145. *DD: direct deposit
FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:00 pm YPG	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

Building Fund to Date

Available Building Fund	\$87,840.90	General Fund:	
Last Week's Collection	\$500.00	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316942
Total	\$88,340.90	Missions Fund:	
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$380,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316950
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$291,659.10</i>	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.