



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 13 May 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	13 - <i>Rejoice, the Lord Is King!</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Romans 8:28-39
Hymn	TP 139:1-10
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 28:1-16
Hymn	497 - <i>He Leadeth Me</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Needy Ministering to the Needy"
*Closing Hymn	518 - <i>I Will Guide 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

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From Queenly Pedigree to Pariah Pedigree®

Today is Mother's Day. We remember it by examining the scariest mother, daughter, and wife in world history.

In observing her evil character, we get a glimpse into what a godly mother's character should be.

That woman was Jezebel.

A Pagan Queen

She was the daughter of Ethbaal, who was king of the Zidonians and a high priest of Astarte.

As his daughter, Jezebel would have served as a priestess. She married Ahab, the king of Israel and influenced him to worship and serve Baal.

There are ungodly traits that we learn she had. And thus, godly mothers ought not to adopt any of these traits.

She Was An Ungodly Influence

It was bad enough that Ahab practiced the false calf-worship of Israel; but because of Jezebel, he worshiped Baal.

Because of her, Ahab built a temple for Baal and set up shrines all over Israel. This angered God greatly.

While the sin was Ahab's, it was Jezebel's ungodly influence that made him sin more.

1 Kings 21:25 records that it was Jezebel who "stirred up" Ahab. The word "stirred up" literally means to poke, prick, and persuade.

Her influence was also seen in and over her children.

Her daughter Athaliah married into the royal family of Judah. Her husband was a king - whom she controlled. Her son was a king - whom she controlled. And when he died, she decided to kill off her grandsons to possess the throne for herself.

As a worshiper of Baal, it was nothing to her to kill young children. She learned this from her mother Jezebel.

William Ross Wallace was correct when he wrote his poem - "*The Hand That*

Rocks the Cradle Is the Hand That Rules the World."

Christian mothers are not immune to idolatry or influencing their husbands and children for evil.

When a woman wants her way, she can cause great damage to her family and the church of God.

But mothers taught and governed by God's Word are precious influencers for godliness.

But this was the problem. Jezebel dismissed the Word of God.

She Dismissed God's Word

Jezebel was famous for persecuting God's prophets.

1 Kings 18:4,13 record that she "cut off the prophets of the Lord" and "slew" them. The word "cut off" refers to a systematic massacre. "Slew" refers to a bloody slaughter.

Like Hitler and Pol Pot, she embarked on a calculative, deliberate, and brutal extermination.

She decimated them until only 100 remained. Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

And the reason why she killed the prophets was because they opposed her religion. Their preaching on sin and righteousness were contrary to her ideology.

Thus, they were a threat. And that is why she aimed to get rid of them. Why get rid of them if their preaching was not a threat? Jezebel could not bear the Word of God.

Christian mothers are not immune to such resistance towards the Word of God.

We may reject God's commands to reconcile because we are living in bitterness. We may reject God's commands to give up sin because we love our sins too much.

And we dismiss those who teach us these commands. By so doing, we dismiss the Word of God.

Hebrews 3:12-14 says, *"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end."*

Tenderness to God's Word and obedience of it brings life.

But because she dismissed the Word of God, she did things her own way.

She Plotted to Get Her Way

In 1 Kings 21, Ahab wanted to buy a vineyard that belonged to Naboth. Because of God's laws, Naboth could not part with it. Ahab sulked.

At this, Jezebel rebuked Ahab. She told him that if he wanted it, he should just take it.

And so she wrote letters in Ahab's name, used his seal to make it official, and sent them to the elders of Israel.

She invited them all to a feast where she arranged for 2 men to accuse Naboth of blasphemy against God and treason against the king.

When the people heard these accusations, they became so angry that they killed Naboth by stoning. And after the stoning, with Naboth gone, Jezebel

told Ahab to take rightful possession of the land.

She plotted to get her way. It was God's law that prevented Naboth from selling his vineyard. That should have been the end of it. But she dismissed God's law.

Christian women are not immune to this. When a woman dismisses the Word of God, she can scheme her way into getting what she wants.

She can write emails in her husband's name and stir up many problems.

But a woman who learns surrender to God's Word and cultivates godliness is truly a virtuous woman.

Her Ignoble End, Our Noble End

In all her leading people astray, wanton dismissal of the Word, and plotting to get her way, she was judged by God.

Despite her pedigree as a king's daughter, a king's wife, and the mother of kings, she was judged.

The Bible tells us of her violent defenestration and how her carcass was eaten by packs of wild pariah dogs. She became dog food.

Thank God, Christ has taken the sins of our Christian women. He bore their guilt and punishment, rescuing them from a fate worse than Jezebel's.

As such, their godly pedigree is in Christ. If they learn continued surrender in Christ, pressing on in obedience to the Word and godly example, such queenly women shall be praised. ~ *Pastor*



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 19. What is the misery of that estate whereinto man fell?

A. All mankind, by their fall, lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell forever.

Q. 20. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

A. God, having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (13.5.18)</i>	<i>Next Week (20.5.18)</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jimmy Orchard	Mark Chen
Pianist	Merilyn Woo	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Johnny & Lydia Orchard	Ian & Merrill Read
Offering Stewards	Chris Budiman*, Ken Hong* Kim Leow, David Pang	Ian Read*, Jansen Ng* John Tan, Ethan Huang
Ushers	August Ng, Putri Harapan	Josephine Austin, Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Florence Orchard*, August Ng Victor Poon	Jackie Hong*, Angela Yap Nancy Lim
PA Duty	Raymond Woo	Ken Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>18 May 2018</i>	<i>25 May 2018</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Nancy Lim	Ian Tay

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "The Softness and Hardness of Heart" (Acts 28:17-29).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message: "The Church Must Always Be Eating" (Acts 2:42-47). Speaker: Tee Xuan.
4. Ladies Fellowship Luncheon next Sunday, 20 May 2018, 12.30pm. All ladies are welcome. Please bring finger food if you can. Contact Wendy Gong for further details.
5. Pastor Mark Chen will be away for a short break this week but is contactable by phone and email.
6. Visitation this week by Elder Jimmy Orchard and Deacon Vincent Chiu.
7. Church keys. If you hold any, please let Valerie Lee know.

Appointments for the Week

WED 10:00 am	Craft Group
FRI 7:30 pm	CBI & Prayer Meeting
SAT 4:00 pm	YPG
4:30 pm	JF & TF
SUN 9:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Worship Service

Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

General Fund - \$4,192.25 (*DD - \$200.00, #790 - \$200.00, #791 - \$200.00, #792 - \$400.00). Missions Fund - \$320.00 (*DD - \$100.00). Building Fund - \$600.00 (*DD - \$300.00, #583 - \$100.00, #584 - \$200.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$5,112.25. Attendance - 155.
*DD: direct deposit

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.

The Needy Ministering to the Needy
Acts 28:1-16

God's people will go through many trials and ordeals. All trials are meant by God for purging. Trials teach us how much we need God. But when one trial ends, another one usually starts up. But despite this, God gives us times of rest and sends people to minister to us.

1. God's Unusual Provision in Times of Exhaustion
 - a. God's common grace among unbelievers
 - b. A common ungodly thought among unbelievers
 - c. A great gospel opportunity
 - d. An uncommon gratitude
2. God's Christian Provision in Times of Uncertainty
 - a. God's people need to worship with God's people
 - b. God's people need the care of God's people

In Paul's ordeals, God sent people to minister to him, and he in turn ministered to them. God is the author of this. After all, Christ left heaven's glory and comfort, to be alone. At his time of greatest need, his disciples forsook him. And when he was there on the cross bearing upon him the sins of mankind, his father forsook him. Why? So that we, in our need, might never be forsaken.

Questions for Reflection:

1. How has God ministered to you in your needs by his provision of people? How have you ministered to others in their need by being a blessing?
2. How does it feel knowing that life is filled with unending trials? But how does it feel knowing that Christ supplies our needs in our times of need by being forsaken in his hour of need?