



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 19 August 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	24 - <i>God of Earth, God of Sky</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Genesis 1:1-25
Hymn	TP 104:1-6
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Genesis 1:26-31
Hymn	638 - <i>Only One Life to Give</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Relevancy of Genesis and the State of Australian Culture"
*Closing Hymn	347 - <i>Not What These Hands Have Done</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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The Sufficiency and Authority of the Word and Our Lingering Doubts

Is the Bible Sufficient and Authoritative for Our Faith and Life?

As Christians, we profess that we believe the Word to be sufficient for everything related to our faith and spiritual life.

We believe that God has breathed the Word out unto us and it's profitable, or useful for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

And we believe that through this knowledge of Christ, we have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3-4).

In other words, the Word is utterly sufficient and proficient for successful living. We have no need of any other philosophy.

As Reformed Christians, we confess that *"The whole counsel of God, concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man's salvation, faith, and life, is either expressly set down in scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit, or traditions of men"* (WCF I:6).

How Is the Bible Sufficient?

2 Timothy 3:16 says that it is profitable for doctrine.

It educates us about God and about us. John Calvin says, *"Nearly all wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves."*

And there are several ways that the Word of God educates us. Firstly, it educates us by way of precepts.

Psalms 19:8 - *"The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."*

In other words, God's Word gives us understanding of what is pleasing to God, and by doing it, we gain joy.

We have the 10 commandments (Exodus 20) and their exposition all over Scripture (Matthew 22:36-40, Romans 13:8-10).

Secondly, it educates us with truth. There is only one God, in three persons (Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19). The way to be saved from your sins is to be saved by Jesus by believing in him and repenting from your sins (Mark 1:14-15). It says there is no way of being saved apart from believing in Jesus (John 14:6).

Thirdly, it educates us by way of example.

1 Peter 2:21 says, *"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."*

Paul called the Corinthians to follow him because he followed Christ (1 Cor 11:1).

And it is authoritative, in that, when we follow it, there will be change. If we are wrong in doctrine and obedience, then the Word is profitable for reproof.

It teaches us to mourn for our sins and to change our minds on the wrong doctrines we have held on to. It helps us to be convicted on where we were wrong.

The Bible is also profitable for correction. Once we know we are wrong, it helps us to return to the right paths.

This was the case with King David who was confronted with his adultery - he repented. This was also the case with Zacchaeus - who after meeting with Jesus, returned all that he had taken.

It is also profitable for instruction in righteousness. How does a person change? How is he corrected? It requires discipline.

It teaches us to exercise ourselves to godliness. It helps us to discipline our thinking, our speech, and our behavior.

And the result of allowing the Bible to change our minds and behavior results in salvation and maturity. 2 Timothy 3:15,17 speaks of the maturity of the Christian.

The Holy Scriptures are able to show us the way unto salvation. Timothy learned the Scriptures from a young child, and he was saved as a result.

The Holy Scriptures are also able to make us mature and useful for every work that God has for us.

Our Lingering Doubt about the Bible's Sufficiency and Authority

Despite what we confess, we don't always believe it practically. We don't always obey it.

James 1:22 says, *"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."*

When we don't actually submit ourselves to it, we don't actually believe it.

This happens in the issue of doctrine. Many confess a right doctrine of salvation, but reject it simultaneously.

They agree that believing in Jesus saves but also say that their loved ones who have died outside Christ are in heaven; and even the heathen can be saved without faith in Christ. This, despite the clear teaching that there is no salvation in any other but Jesus.

And while they believe there is sin and redemption, they don't believe the literal

creation events that are tied to those doctrines.

When there is no belief in it, there is no faithfulness to it.

Similarly, this happens in the issue of obedience. We know God's Word; but do not worship God as we should. On the gathered meetings of God's people, we are not found there.

We know God's Word when it speaks about forgiveness, discretion of our speech, contentment, giving, and introspection; but we are still small-hearted, argumentative, jealous, greedy, joyless, selfish, and proud.

This shows lingering doubt. And that's why there's a disconnect between confession and true belief.

JC Philpot said "Where God's word effectually works in the heart, it has an influence over the life. It separates from the world and the spirit of it; keeps the consciences alive and tender in the fear of God; produces uprightness and integrity of conduct; extends its influence to the various relationships of life; subdues pride, covetousness, and selfishness; softens and meekens the spirit; gives tender feelings and gracious affections; fosters prayer, meditation, and spirituality of mind; and makes itself manifest in the life, walk, and conversation."

Is there a disconnect between our confession and our belief? There is. It is always the case for each one of us. May the Lord grant us a greater faith in what we confess.

~ Pastor



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 35. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (19.8.18)</i>	<i>Next Week (26.8.18)</i>
Speaker	Josh Williamson	Jimmy Orchard
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Chris Budiman
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Ian Tay
Welcomers	Josephine Austin & Wendy Gong	John & Adeline Ng
Offering Stewards	Steven Lim*, Ken Hong* Ethan Huang, Jacob Woo	John Tan*, Vincent Chiu* Micah Chiang, Ken Chong
Ushers	Dolphin Wai, August Ng	Jesslyn Leow, Josephine Austin
Kitchen Duties	Helen Wong*, Sandy Chua Carmel Sriharan	Marilyn Woo*, Val Withnell Vincent Chiu
PA Duty	Ian Tay	Ken Hong
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>24 August 2018</i>	<i>31 August 2018</i>
Facilitator	Jimmy Orchard	Mark Chen
Pianist	Ian Tay	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. We welcome Pastor Josh Williamson to our pulpit. He is a pastor and the executive director of Answers in Genesis (Australia & New Zealand).
3. Next week's speaker is Elder Jimmy Orchard. Message: "Amazing Grace of God" (Titus 2:11-15).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message: "The Real Story of Moses" (Acts 7:17-43). Speaker: Ken Chong.
5. Pastor Mark Chen will be in Melbourne (24-28 August 2018) as part of a pastoral commission to Ebenezer Bible-Presbyterian Church. Please be in prayer for this endeavor.
6. Visitation this week by Elder Jimmy Orchard and Deacon Jacob Woo.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	General Fund - \$3,466.70 (*DD - \$200.00, #809 - \$100.00, #810 - \$13.00, #811 - \$200.00, #812 - \$167.60). Missions Fund - \$280.00 (*DD - 100.00). Building Fund - \$400.00 (*DD - \$300.00, #605 - \$100.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$4,146.70. Attendance - 136. *DD: direct deposit
FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

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.