



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 17 November 2019

Theme for the Year: "Strength in Weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9)

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	Matthew 27:39-49
Hymn	TP – 25:16-22
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Job 3:1-26
Hymn	494 – <i>All The Way My Saviour Leads Me</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Why Me?"
*Closing Hymn	138 – <i>It Is Finished</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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I Shall Come Forth As Gold

We've been studying the book of Job in our worship services. It is a book for times of trouble and suffering in our lives. Why?

Because it gives hope - that despite trial and difficulty - there is a real good outcome. Job himself said, "*But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold*" (Job 23:10).

Job was confident that he would emerge from his trials as a purer person.

We've seen how Satan sought God's permission to test Job. God gave that permission and Job was tormented by Satan. He lost his family, his farm, and his flesh was stricken with disease.

But he remained faithful to God.

His friends were convinced that Job had sinned - this is why he experienced so much trial. God would not chastise so severely unless he had done something wrong. So one by one, Job's friends tried to get Job to confess his sin.

But while Job was not perfect, he sought to live a life to honor God. So he defended himself - while he was not sinless, his life was not one of wanton sin.

It must've been very difficult for Job. But in the midst of such a test of fire, Job said something profound that showed his explicit trust in God - But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

In this confession of faith, Job acknowledged 3 things.

God Knows All Things and Directs the Righteous

Job 23:8-10 says, "*Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth*

himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: But he knoweth the way that I take..."

Job was saying that even though he couldn't see God and didn't know all about what God was doing - because he is hidden - yet, God knows and sees Job's ways.

But God is more than just a bystander. He doesn't only see, but he directs.

God knows all things because God sovereignly *controls* all things. He knows our ways because he has ordained our ways. Proverbs 16 teaches that while a man's heart may devise his way, it is God that directs his steps.

And the way that God directs a person's steps is by his laws. When a person acknowledges God in all his ways, God shall direct such a person's paths (Proverbs 3:6).

What was Job saying? He was saying that even though he didn't know all things, yet he was confident that God knows all things and was directing him because he sought to follow God.

Are you going through a trial? Is it difficult? Remember that God knows about it and he is working in your life through it even though you don't understand it. And if you are seeking after him and walking aright, he will direct you.

God Is the One Who Has Sent the Trial

Job 23:10 says clearly that God was trying Job. Job knew that. He acknowledged that God had sovereign control over his life.

It's a wonderful thing to know that God is in control of your life when things are hunky-dory. But it's harder to acknowledge that God is in control when things are going poorly.

But God is the one who is in control of our trials.

In the case of Job, Satan was used. He asked for permission and was granted. This was the same with Peter - Satan desired to sift him like wheat - to shake his faith vigorously for the purpose of making him lose it.

But the loving God was behind it - for both Job and Peter. He was still in control. Job knew that, which is why he said, "when he hath tried me." So whether your trial is a sickness, a job loss, a strained friendship, a work stress, or even a Satan directed trial - God is in control because he is the one who sent the trial in the first place.

This is why James was able to say in James 1:2 - *"my brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations."*

The reason for the joy is not only because God is in control and won't let us be tested beyond what we can bear, but God has a purpose for that trial on his child that acknowledges him.

God Sends the Trial for Our Purification

Job 23:10 says that when God had tried Job, he would come forth as gold. The gold that Job was speaking about was the refined gold that had gone through a purification process.

When gold is mined, it has a lot of impurities. The gold is melted, mixed with mercury, which bonds to the gold. The other impurities are burned away leaving the alloy behind. Through another chemical process, the mercury is separated from the gold, leaving it pure. And when it is finally pure, it can

be molded into something priceless. But that process requires much heat.

Job was saying that the trial that he was going through was burning hot - sent by God for his purification.

And this was the wonderful truth. Job was already a righteous man - there was none like him in all the east. Yet, God would make him better. Job would be subjected to such trials that whatever impurity that was in him would be burned up.

And he was tried not only at the hand of God and Satan, but at the hands of his friends leveled the accusation of sin at him.

But Job understood that it was all in the hands of God. And he was confident that when he came out of it, he would be holier - molded into something priceless.

Conclusion

While it is difficult, let us find comfort in the fact that God loves us enough to send us trials. He knows our way. He is in control of all things. And he leads the path of his righteous ones. And when we are purified, we are more like him. ~
Pastor

Catechism for Younger Children

45. How did you break the covenant of life? Adam represented all people, and so I fell with Adam in his first sin.

46. How, then, can you be saved? By the Lord Jesus Christ through the covenant of grace

Worship Service Roster

<i>Service</i>	<i>This Week (17.11.2019)</i>	<i>Next Week (24.11.2019)</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Chris Budiman
Pianist	Magdalene Tay	Eugene Lim
Welcomers	Johnny & Lydia Orchard	Putri Harapan & Rebecca Lee
Offering Stewards	David Pang, Chris Budiman Jemima Ng, Faith Chiu	Kim Leow, Steven Lim Ken Chong, Jacob Woo
Ushers	Putri Harapan & Rebecca Lee	August Ng & Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Mary Loh, Sarah Siew Aliza Chiu	Dina Portillo, Adeline Ng Carmel Sriharan
PA Duty	Raymond Woo	Ken Hong

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: "Round 1: Fight" (Job 4:1-21).
3. **Extraordinary Congregational Meeting Today.** Time: 11:45 am sharp. Venue: 47 Davis Road, Attadale WA 6156. Please be punctual so the meeting can start on time.
4. **Church Family BBQ**, 12pm on Sunday 1st December at Bicton Quarantine Park. Cost: \$5 for everyone except children under 6 years old. Please register and pay with Bro Micah Chiang or Bro David Pang.

Appointments for the Week

SUN 9:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Worship Service

Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

General Fund - \$1889.60 (ET - \$200.00).
Mission Fund - \$90.00
Building Fund - \$300.00 (ET - \$300.00)
Total Tithes & Offerings - \$2279.60

*ET: Electronic Transfer Attendance - 116.