

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)
Established 33 AD

September 5, 2017
Volume 9 Number 30

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606

Web site:
www.beltlinechurch.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.
AM Worship...10:00 a.m.
PM Worship.... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study.... 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday:

Ladies' Bible Class(Sept.-Apr.)
Class meets at 10 a.m.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

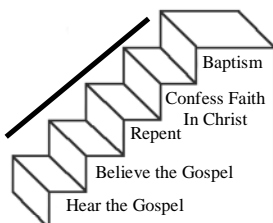
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

CUSTODIANS

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear-Romans 10:17
Believe-John 8:24
Repent-Acts 17:30
Confess-Romans 10:10
Be Baptized-Acts 22:16
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Is It Right Before God?

Don Hatch

Societal changes are all around us. Civilizations known by our forefathers and us have radically changed. In a few generations we have seen changes from most families having a mom and dad to a society whose dads and moms are “absent without leave”; where children do not know how to answer with respect, or show deference for the elderly; where gay is no longer a happy word, but changed into a sinister, corrupt life style; where good sense, good judgment, law and order is replaced with illegal actions haunting the inner city, suburbia and school campuses; where many want civil laws to afford them special privileges and demands that all moral and ethical practices be abandoned and any meaningful time honored respect for God be dropped and an amoral society adopted. Advances have been made in all technical fields but ethics that should accompany these advances are not present. In some arenas, science has taken a “god like” prominence where their word is law. Too much evolution is the norm and creation with God as the Creator is denied in schools, colleges, universities and pulpits. Is it right before God?

One can look at technology and see our advances. Radio, television, cars, planes, boats, clothes computers, medicine, surgery, fast food, preservation of food, credit cards, ATM machines, copy machines, lazar surgery, space ships, men on the moon, space probes, ballpoint pens and the list grows ominously greater each year. The advances are overwhelming. Yet, crucial questions confronting us about values and what we will hold as sacred are going unanswered. Do we change values because of technology? Will questions be answered by known Christian values? Some say, who cares? Others are vexed about popularity, a lack of a payday if wrong choices are made, whether or not to dot my “i” or cross my “t” in every case or can I shave off the corners and get by with it? Others make decisions based upon not having to explain one’s self over the matter, of goals that can be reached only by yielding to power, self-fulfillment, overlooking right and fostering a seemingly workable paradigm with wrong. Is it right before God?

Our greatest rallying point is that truth exposes error. Light and darkness cannot coexist. Some things are incompatible. Truth cannot love evil or rejoice in iniquity (1 Cor 13:6). God’s precepts teach us to love understanding and hate all false

ways (Psm 119:104,128). There is a time to have longsuffering, yet it must be commingled with reproof and rebuking (2 Tim 4:1-5). When sound things are spurned and righteousness denied the people of God must be willing to ask, is it right with God?

No apology is needed for ferreting out error and exposing it. When criticizing moral teachings of a philosopher one is accused of bigotry. It is uncivilized to question “politically correctness”, “so called “tolerance” which tolerates anyone but those who are intolerant of tolerating immoral practices. Is it unloving to leave one in sin? Can a Christian leave one ignorant of the ways of righteousness and be conscience free? Those who have no grounds to defend what they teach and practice throw the gauntlet out that the church is bigoted and intolerant when they object to vile practices. Prejudices are real and bigotry exists. However, the church embraces Jew, Gentile, bond, free, male, female, barbarian and the likes if they are willing to become one in Christ (Gal 3:27,28). This is not bigotry. There must be a willingness to put to death fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire and covetousness by putting off the old man and being renewed in the knowledge of Christ. Spiteful statements by radical zealots who want to remove Christianity from society always seek to torment righteousness. Christians are not small minded or bigots. Their message is not one of hate. There are evil religious systems in the world. They cannot paint themselves as victims and victimize others at the same time. It is illogical. We ask is it right before God?

Modern ideas have influenced the church. Many tolerate trends of compromise in religion and moral practices. Many are intimidated by the world to the point that they do not hold the old paths (Jer 6:16). Commitments are not deep. Many say you cannot win the world by demonstrating that they are wrong. Judgment and hell are taboo subjects in many areas. Comfort and tranquility are sought at the expense of illicit and unscriptural teachings. One wonders if fighting the good fight, finishing the course, keeping the faith is still in the vocabulary of some. Compromise is surrender. Is it right before God?

Some have become disgusted with what appears to them an obsession to defend against error. They perceive it to be an ugly and unchristian attitude. Modernists hide behind it and accuse. We must not tarnish our goal by unwarranted human zeal. We must not be blind guides (Matt 23:24), or be tossed to and fro by winds of doctrine (Eph 4:14). Our rich heritage is that we can be truehearted and brave combined with compassion, not willing that any should perish but that all come to repentance (2 Pet 3 :). Can it be wrong to follow the New Testament, Apostles doctrine and examples set forth in Scripture? Consider Jesus Christ, Apostles, Stephen and others. Is it right before God to expose error?

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

SPECIAL THANKS:

Last fall a need arose suddenly in the Bear Ministry for someone to coordinate the work done by the volunteers for this program. The Bear Program provides handmade Teddy Bears to newborns in the nursery at the Hospital, to children in the emergency room and to children getting lab work done at the Medical/Surgical Clinic next to the Hospital. This is a great program that gets the name of the Belt Line Road church of Christ out to many people at a stressful time in their lives.

Marcella Porter volunteered to take on this responsibility. She has solicited new workers and organized the existing volunteers in a more productive manner. This group of workers is doing an outstanding job. Here are the results of their work in numbers of bears delivered to date:

354 to the Nursery, 439 to the Lab in the Clinic, 487 to the ER, totaling 1,280 bears delivered. This is an amazing number and is far above any previous year this program has existed (at least 30 years). Thanks to every volunteer and to Marcella for all your dedicated work on this program. Keep up the good work.

TODAY'S ARTICLE:

This month let us explore why we believe in the Bible. The Bible is a wonderful book, highly esteemed by many. Dwight Eisenhower once said, "The Bible is endorsed by the ages. Our civilization is built upon its words. In no other book is there such a collection of inspired wisdom, reality, and hope." Charles Dickens also said, "The New Testament is the very best book that ever was or ever will be known in the world." As Christians, we also should not be ashamed to confess our own faith in the Bible. We realize that it is the Word of God written by men, who were inspired by the Spirit of God - **2 Tim 3:16-17** "*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,* ¹⁷ *that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*" So what evidences are there to believe that the Bible is inspired of God? There are many so let's just review a few, beginning with the uniformity of the Bible.

We start with understanding that the Bible is a collection of **66 books** written over a period of **1600 years**, a span of **40 generations**, written by about **40 authors** from every walk of life. Let us look at some of the authors. **Moses**, a political leader trained in the universities of Egypt, **Peter**, a fisherman, **Amos**, a herdsman, **Joshua**, a military general, **Nehemiah**, a cup bearer to a king, **Daniel**, a prime minister, **Luke**, a physician, **Solomon**, a king, **Matthew**, a tax collector, **Paul**, a tentmaker and rabbi. Notice also that it was written in different places. Moses was in the **wilderness**, Jeremiah in a **dungeon**, Daniel on a **hillside** and in a **palace**, Paul inside **prison walls**, Luke while **traveling**, John in exile and on the isle of **Patmos**, others in the rigors of **military campaigns**. Notice also it was written at different times and during different moods. David in times of **war**, Solomon in times of **peace**, some writing from the heights of joy, others from the depths of sorrow and despair. Now notice it was written on three continents, and in three languages; Asia, Africa, Europe and Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, which subject matter includes hundreds of controversial topics such as the origin of man and the universe, the nature of God and the nature of sin and man's redemption.

Next week let us visit the harmony and continuity of this wonderful book called the Bible. Have a great week and continue to remember our members who are suffering along with all the people down south of us.

Jerry McKey

Baptism

One of the points of contention in the religious world has been baptism. Most religious groups who are considered "Christian" have a mode of baptism that range from dipping, plunging, sprinkling, pouring, drenching and even immersion. However a Greek Lexicographical works by W.E. Vines say it consists of the processes of immersion, submersion and emergence never pouring, sprinkling or drenching. The word baptism has been Anglicized from *baptisma* or *baptismos* to baptize.

New Testament baptism is not a ceremonial act as the Jews performed when they made a proselyte. It is a command to be immersed into the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sin (Acts 2:38). It was appointed by the Savior prior to His ascension and became the means to be in Christ (Gal 3:27; Eph 1:3). What one does when he is baptized is likened unto a burial (Rom 6:1-11). It is where the old man of sin dies and arises to walk in the newness of life. Emphasis is made by saying baptism is being "buried with him in baptism" (Col 2:12). Pouring, sprinkling would hardly qualify as a burial and is without biblical authority.

Baptism had a clear declaration of the object in view. The individual who had come to believe that Jesus Christ of Nazareth was the Son of God, who had repented of personal sins, confessed that Jesus Christ was the Son of God could be baptized in His name for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Some teach that there is no rigid command regarding the order and sequence of the action to be taken to becoming a Christian. However there are clear Bible examples of the sequence. Everyone must **believe** Jesus is the Son of God before they can proceed to a point of **repenting** of sins. Without **repentance** of sins, it would be impossible to **confess** that Jesus as the Son of God who has all authority over one's spiritual life. One must confess with the mouth Jesus as Lord before baptism (Rom 10:1-15). In **all cases of conversion**, candidates were baptized for the remission of sins. Salvation is deliverance from sin. The overwhelming teaching of the Bible is that candidates copied Christ death and were crucified and buried in baptism (Rom 6:1-11). Baptism saves one from sins (Mk 16:15, 16; Act 2:38).

The element in which one must be immersed is water. Some have tried to make it the Holy Spirit. However, the Bible says only Christ could baptize in the Spirit and the disciples were to baptize in water. Holy Spirit baptism was never for the remission of sins. A biblical example is the Ethiopian near Gaza. After being taught of Jesus, he saw water and requested baptism. The Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water and the eunuch was baptized (Act 8:26-40). The only means allowed disciple for baptism was in water, in the name of Christ and for the remission of sins. Obviously, baptism of infants imposed by some is a flagrant violation of biblical commands. Infants cannot fulfill the steps required and a parent cannot by proxy fulfill the steps for them. Because baptism is a command it is significant that one must obey this command in order to be saved (Mk 16:15, 16). Children are not sinners and do not need to be saved. There will be a time when they are accountable for their personal sins and at that time, they will need to follow the plan for salvation.

Bible baptism is for the remission of sins. Many believe baptism is important and contend that it is a command of God, but teach one is saved before baptism. A question must arise, how one can be saved prior to being immersed for salvation. This would be an oxymoron where contradictory terms are combined. Baptism is not something one does after salvation; baptism is for remission of sins (Acts 3:38; 1 Pet 3:21). Logically it is inescapable that baptism is a command. It that must be obeyed in order to be saved and one is not saved until they have been immersed for that reason.

Don Hatch

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

Call in your information to the office at:
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening

SEPTEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS:

Sept 10 - Front Foyer – Randy & Barbara Reagan
Back Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England

Sept 17 - Front Foyer – Mike Haynes & Nancy Pond
Back Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England

Communion Preparation: Darrell & Melissa Allen

Contribution Counters: John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

SERMONS

Sept 10 – a.m. “Another Comforter”

John 16:1-7

p.m. “Magnificent Reminder”

Joshua 4:19-24

**HAVE YOU INVITED
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP
THIS WEEK?**

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Dessie Ross, Margaret Lewis, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Daryl Gerardo, Jerry Catlin, David Hawkins, Beverly McKey, Judy King, Barbara Reagan, Lucy Fullerton, Anne Herriage

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

Nursing Homes: **Max Melton** – Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation
Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care

Military: Chris & Abigail Mathews

EVENTS

MISSION PRINTING – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will resume on **Tuesday, September 12th**. Please mark your calendar and join us at **9:45 a.m.** Ladies please make plans to attend and bring a friend.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mike Garrison went to the doctor Tuesday and they placed him in Hospice Care. **Mike** is very weak and in pain.

Happy to report all of **Nancy Pond**'s tests turned out good.

James Gilliam will be tested on September 13 to see if he can have surgery. It will be 2 to 3 weeks before they get the results.

PRAYER CONCERNS con't

Bobby Allen has been moved to room #412 at Baylor, Scott & White Hospital. He is having breathing problems. Please **No Visitors**.

Richard & Carolyn Renfro's son-in-law **Tom Gierling** is on the police force in Fort Worth and has gone to Houston to help there. Please keep him in your prayers.

Patsy Swain is still having problems with her leg and fell at the doctor's office. No broken bones though but is bruised as she fell face first.

Paul Kelly is having major surgery today at William P. Clements Hospital.

Jerry McKey will be starting a new series of Bible study on Sunday morning in the Junior Auditorium. The topic will be “**Heart Diseases and Their Cure**”.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Remove – **Merlene Stoker** as she has moved to Abilene.

New Member – **Gwen Nathan**

3749 William Dehaes Dr., Apt. #401
Irving, Texas 75038

Phone: 870-733-7236

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**9/18/17 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 pm****SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

David West – 9/1
 Jackye Jewett – 9/2
 Dean Webb – 9/4
 Brenda Bryant – 9/7
 Katherine Cox – 9/8
 Billy Joe Swain – 9/8
 Sherry Hodge – 9/13
 Charlotte Burrows – 9/17
 Marcella Porter – 9/20
 Mary Martini – 9/24
 Dessie Ross – 9/26

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Scott* & Debra Wintle – 9/17
 Vern & Melody Lundquist – 9/22
 David & Faye West – 9/24
 Ray & LaFon Simpson – 9/27
 Bryan* & Delisa Banister – 9/30

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:
 (469) 216-7580*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)****9/10/17****SUNDAY PRAYERS****Front Table****Rear Table**

Don Herriage
 Curtis Vaughan
 Mike Haynes
 Walt LaHaye
 Alex Mayer
 Dean Webb

Nathan Allen
 Kenny Mayer
 Robert Taylor
 Thomas Rathbun

A.M. – Jerry McKey
 Bill Matthews
 Darrell Allen
 P.M. – John Mayer
 Richard Renfro

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

Bill Matthews
 Nathan Allen

SCRIPTURE READING

A.M. – Mike Haynes
 John 16:1-7
 P.M. – Darrell Allen
 Joshua 4:19-24

SONG LEADERS

A.M. – Randy Reagan
 P.M. – Mike Haynes

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

Thomas Rathbun

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	53	72	59	100
A.M. Worship	94	110	93	150
P.M. Worship	63	75	65	80
Wed. Class	98	67	63	85
Contribution	\$3490	\$7828	\$5350	\$5220

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas
 The Truth In Love – Hurst, Texas
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, Texas
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, Texas
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, Texas
 Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Joseph Harris, Nathan Boyd
 Southwest School of Bible Studies – Garrett English

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
 PAID
 AT IRVING, TEXAS**