

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

June 19, 2017
Volume 9 Number 24

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606
972/790-3897 (fax)

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

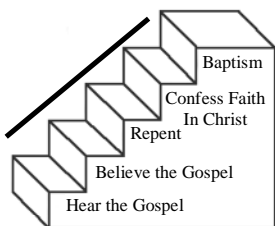
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Love Is!

Don Hatch

The Bible places a great premium on love. Biblical love is “agape”—seeks another’s highest good. It is active good will, highest form of excellence and hunts for the best in others. Love properly directed is **personal**. It engages the soul, mind, and will of an individual. If driven by sentimentalism it will be misdirected. God “loved us” and sought our highest good. All of God’s activities are personal. God takes a personal interest in each of us. Obedient believers are children of God. This family relationship enjoys the highest good known to man. God’s love directed us towards salvation. Jesus died that humanity might be reconciled to God (Rom 5:1-11). Nothing approaches the magnitude of God’s love but the church emulates it in their application of loving one another. Love is **personal**.

Love is never **dispassionate**. Emotions found in love are decisions and commitments to go above and beyond. A perception we should have of love is that it can be conferred on others (1 Jn 3:16, 17). With our heart, we obeyed the gospel (Rom 6:15-18). It is the same heart with which we love brethren. Love demands more of us. Love is compassion, tenderness and manifest sincerity (love devoid of admixture). Coupling our will with effort, we are prompted to the strongest desires of kindness, affection, honor and serving. Christians are honorable, peaceful and have aspirations of overcoming evil with good (Rom 12:21). Sin causes problems and disciples of Jesus Christ **passionately** desire to help others find peace, joy, hope and love in Christ (Eph 3:14-19).

The **practical** side of love takes care of needs. The early church saw needs and helped those who were in various plights (Acts 2:43-47; 6:1-11; 2 Cor 8 & 9; 1 Jn 3:16-18). They did not render “lip-service” but wholehearted giving. Jesus met the needs of mankind with sacrificial love (Rom 3:21-30; 5:1-11). Christ’s sacrifice upon the cross teaches that goodness with commitment is great gain (1 Tim 6:6). Servants of Christ are gentle towards all,

forbearing, meek and ready to lend a hand to those who are in the snare of the Devil (2 Tim 2:24-26). In a practical way seeking opportunity to do well is what identifies Christian love (Gal 6:1-5). Sowing seeds of kindness yields a crop of goodness (Gal 6:6-10). Practical love seeks a certain way of life. Christians are in touch with “whatsoever ye would that men do unto you, even so do ye also unto them (Matt 7:12).

The power of love changes lives. Disciples must be transformed by the renewing of their mind (Rom 12:1-5). Approval of what God approves comes when one is fashioned into a spiritual servant. Love is powerful enough to see that “whatsoever” is needed will be done. Christ’s body (church) fitly framed, knitted together supplies in due measure the building up of itself in love (Eph 4:1-16). Allowing all things to be done in love does not give licenses to sin (Rom 6:1, 2, 15-18). Love confirms and establishes unity (2 Cor 2:8; Eph 4:1, 2). Genuine love is concern about others (Rom 9:1-6). Christians see how Christ laid down his life as a friend (Jn 15:13) and are equally moved to live lives of service. Love’s pursuits are to be true, honorable, just, pure, and lovely, have a good report, virtuous, praiseworthiness and bringing peace (Phil 4:8-9).

Love has an **inherent energy** that expresses in outwardly visible ways the power that produced it. Characteristic of love is persistence. Cheap love withers in the heat of the day’s work, while exalted love fulfills all in Christ’s name (Col 3:17). As love is being expressed, it is easy to discourage it. Few may appreciate the efforts and often love is not reciprocated. Love does not depend upon feelings; it **persists** regardless of circumstances. Love endures all things (1 Cor 13:7, 8). We love, not because we invented love but God first loved us. He declared His love in Christ. We, like Him, must practice persistent love. The church is Christ’s “beloved”. Over 30 times the New Testament refers to the faithfully obedient servant as “beloved”. The term means “dear” to God.

“Let love of the brethren continue. Forget not to show love unto strangers” (Heb 13:1-6). “Honor all men. Love the brotherhood” (1Pet 2:17). Love describes the attitude of God and His Son towards the human race (Jn 17:26) and to such as believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (Jn 14:21). It conveys the will of the Father to His children and their attitude toward one another (Jn 13:34) and toward all (Gal 6:10). Love is known by action. **Love is not complacent.**

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

It is clear that a sense of mission must be the driving force of our lives as God's children. The account of the life and times of Queen Esther points that out very well. We have all heard that story since we were children. But, if you are like me, you have often overlooked the sense of **mission** that filled every step of that woman's life.

In Esther 1 we see the Persian king, Ahasuerus, throwing a party for the dignitaries of his government. Secular history tells us that this must have been king Xerxes (the 5th king of the Medo-Persian Empire). As the feast continued over a period of 180 days, the king decided that his queen, Vashti, should show off her beauty in front of his drunk friends. When she refused to participate in that spectacle, the king quietly deposed her from her queenship.

In Chapter 2 the search for a new queen begins. After gathering the virgins from around the kingdom, the king decided that Esther would be his queen. He knew nothing about her nationality, religion or anything else. She was simply the most beautiful of all of the women and he wanted her for his queen. Since her parents died early in her life, Esther was raised from early childhood by her 1st cousin, Mordecai.

When chapter 3 begins, we are introduced to another character in the story. This man's name was Haman. Haman was one of the king's favorite princes. Because of that, the king raised him to a high position of authority in the kingdom. Wherever Haman went, the people would bow to him. Being the vain man that he was, Haman thoroughly enjoyed the reverence that the people showed him. That is what made him so mad when Mordecai refused to bow. In spite of the pleadings that some of the king's servants did, Mordecai refused to bow to a human being. When Haman found out that Mordecai was a Jew, he arranged an interview with king Xerxes. In that discussion, Haman convinced the king that the Jews were a danger to his kingdom. By the end of the conversation, the king had granted permission for Haman to oversee the extermination of the entire Jewish race.

As we compare our world today with the condition of the Jews in Esther's day, we see some striking similarities. Next week we will talk about what those similarities are. Take the time to read the book of Ester this week and see what you come up with.

Jerry McKey

Continued from right column...

Oppression by Midianites- Gideon (others were Abimelech, Tola, Jair)

Oppression by Ammonites- Jephthah (civil war between Ephraimites and Gileadites, other judges Ibzan, Elon, Abdon)

Oppression by Philistines- Samson

Appendix- Micah and sons made priest

Events recorded in the New Testament to demonstrate the authenticity of Judges:

Acts 13:20- Judges arise (Jg 2:18) - Heb 11:32- Call of Balak (Jg 4:6) - Heb 11:32, 34- Gideon (Jg 6:11) - Heb 11:32- Jephthah (Jg 11:1) - Heb 11:32- Samson (Jg 13:24)

Don Hatch

Judges

The second historical book of the Old Testament is Judges because it records the exploits of Israel under the Judges. It takes up the history of Israel following Joshua as indicated in the opening words "Now after the death of Joshua...".

The book is not meant to give a full historical overview of this period. Other books like Ruth and Samuel contribute to the fuller picture. The last judge was Samuel. The ancillary material of famous Judges is reviewed in the laws that they sought to define and enforce. The book of Ruth was originally part of this book. In the 5th century AD, the Hebrews canonist placed it after the Song of Solomon. The Septuagint preserves its location.

The period of time from the Exodus to the building of the Temple by Solomon, in his fourth year, was 480 years. The years of wandering in the wilderness (40), the reign of Saul and David had been (80) and the 4 years of Solomon were 124, which left 356 years to be accounted for by the book of Joshua and Judges. The period of the Judges was more than two times as long as the monarchy.

During Joshua's leadership Israel remained in a quasi-devotion to Jehovah. They lapsed into idolatry for which they were punished under the Judges. This punishment was under the servitude of six nations. Judges were raised up to deliver Israel from these evil nations. Israel, when in servitude cried out to Jehovah, Judges lead in the battle, which delivered Israel. These individuals were temporary leaders but acted as magistrates under the authority of the law. Usually they were limited to certain parts of various tribes. Often they were contemporaneous with each other. Therefore the chronology is somewhat disorderly.

The Hebrew name for Judges implied a connection to the law as a title of Hebrew government. The relationship Judges had with Joshua demonstrates how far the tribes of Israel had failed to expel the people of Canaan. The Judges were to administrate justice. By the time, Eli's sons were ready to assume leadership they were corrupt and Israel did not want them to be their judges.

Therefore, the supreme authority had greatly deteriorated. Samuel succeeded in establishing a more permanent form of government. Before Samuel everyone was doing "...that which was right in his own sight" (Jg 21:25)..

The book stresses why it was important to stamp out idolatry. The Messianic nation was to have a fertile area in which to grow that the Holy seed line would remain pure. It was essential that Israel sustain a relationship with Jehovah that they might be the means of His Divine blessings.

A nation cannot sin with impunity and that was particularly true of Israel because she was a unique nation. To bring them back to a true sense of righteousness God used chastisement (Heb 12:1-14).

Contemporaneous history records Assyria and Babylon were increasing and used by God to chastise Israel. Egypt had reached her height in the 19th Dynasty followed by civil war. Phoenicia had two great cities, Tyre and Sidon. Greece was in its first stages of growth. They were a people devoted to war.

The outline of the book of Judges is:

Conditions of the tribes under Joshua and after – 1:2:9 (the Idolatrous nations as they dwelt among the tribes- Nations left in Canaan).

Invasions and Deliverance – 2:10-16:21

Oppression of by Mesopotamians-Othniel

Oppression by Moabites-Eglon, Ehud, Shamgar

Oppression by Canaanites- Deborah, Balak

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

JUNE ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS:

June 25 –Front Foyer – Richard & Carolyn Renfro
Back Foyer – Nancy Pond & Doris Selby

July 2 – Front Foyer – Robert & Cathy Taylor
Back Foyer – Bill & Linda Matthews

Communion Preparation: Vern & Melody Lundquist

Contribution Counters: Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

SERMONS

June 25 – a.m. “Counting The Cost”
Luke 14:25-35
p.m. “The Blood That Cleanses”
1 John 1:5-10

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

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don & Margaret Lewis, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Daryl Gerardo David Hawkins, Beverly McKey, Jerry Catlin, Judy King

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

Nursing Homes: **Max Melton, Jane Easter** – 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Beverly McKey is now home from the hospital.
Jane Easter has been moved to Irving Nursing & Rehab on Britain Road, room #10 and is under Hospice Care. Please keep her in your daily prayers. Visitors are welcome.

There are many of our number who are struggling with health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers so that they may once again be back at services with us.

GROCERY BAGS

The grocery bags for Christ's Haven will be picked up early tomorrow, **June 20th**.

SUMMER SERIES

June 21st – **Pat McIntosh** (Cleburne, Texas) will be our Guest Speaker at 7:00 p.m. His topic will be “**Law, Prophets, Psalms**” Luke 24:44-49

TEENS

On **June 27th** the teens will be going to Keller. The topic will be “**Salvation Is From God.**”

THANK YOU NOTES

There are Thank Notes on the bulletin board from **Polly Roses** and **Randy and Barbara Reagan**.

RESPONSE

Randy and Barbara Reagan placed membership with us on Sunday. Their address is:

P.O. Box 1251
Bedford, Texas 76095
Phone: 817-508-8981

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**6/28/17 – Kevin Langford – Speaker****JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Laquita Baker – 6/2
 Denzil Myers – 6/5
 Beverly McKey – 6/6
 Taylor Lee – 6/14
 Nadya Workman – 6/22
 Darrell Allen – 6/23
 Delisa Banister – 6/24
 Mike Batot – 6/28

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Robert & Cathy Taylor – 6/13
 John & Kim Mayer – 6/30

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		6/25/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Jerry McKey Darrell Allen Henry Seidmeyer
Nathan Allen	Curtis Vaughan		P.M. – Curtis Vaughan Dale Cox
Alex Mayer	Vern Lundquist		
Purman Cofer	Dale Cox		<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
John Mayer	Robert Taylor		A.M. – Kenny Mayer Luke 14:25-35
Mike Haynes			P.M. – Alex Mayer 1 John 1:5-10
Dorris Walker			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
Scot Allen			Darrell Allen
Don Herriage			
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			
A.M. – Jerry McKey			
P.M. – Darrell Allen			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	63	57	58	100
A.M. Worship	98	96	90	150
P.M. Worship	65	79	63	80
Wed. Class	68	62	59	85
Contribution	\$4600	\$5825	\$5184	\$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 – Issac Umana

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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