

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

October 31, 2011
Volume 3 Number 41

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

Web site:
<http://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.... 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday:

Ladies' Bible Class..Sep.-Apr.
*See page 4 for current meeting time.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

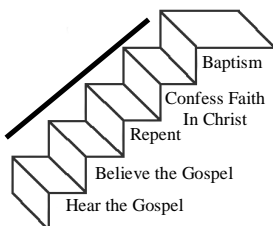
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Divine Truth

Don Hatch

It is obvious from the scriptures that thoughts expressed in language constitute and demand careful consideration on the part of the reader. The expressions of Bible writers are guided by the Holy Spirit which give verbal, plenary inspiration (Jn 16:13). God wanted His words and His meaning to be attached to the teachings found in the Bible. Unlike human writings the Bible is uniquely the mind of God in human language.

Hermeneutics are the principles of understanding Bible writings. There is a definite body of laws required to understand the Bible. They cannot be violated or set aside without confusion and errors developing. Ambiguity is a pitfall into which many fall. It takes time to understand scripture. Hard passages take years of careful study to fully grasp the complete thought and intent. A proven part of the law of interpreting the Bible is that the easy passages build a foundation for the more difficult passages. Bible passages should be considered in the time frame of the writers, such as which dispensation and to whom the passage is written. Obvious literal and original intent of the writer is paramount. Twisting of a passage to obtain a desired doctrine is not justified (2 Pet 3:14-18).

Creating a new or unjustified meaning for a Bible passage is destructive to the entire Bible. A frank and literal passage which is capable of only one interpretation remains a stable underpinning for all other passages. Acceptance of the writer's legitimate and primary meaning removes extending it into a broader interpretation. There is within Scripture what is known as "secondary meaning". That is to say that a passage may have a prophecy interlaced with other items. These are often seen in the prophecies of Christ, His coming, Kingdom, reign, propitiation, remission of sins and other aspects of His ministry. It is legitimate to take these passages literally and prophetically. Many of them were utterances not completely understood until the New Testament was written (Acts 3:18-26).

Allegories in the Bible are best explained by the Bible writers. Paul used an allegory about Abraham's two sons and the promise to the free-woman's son (Gal 4:21-31). Paul explains the allegory. Allegorical interpretation of the Bible has complicated Bible understanding. Great care should be taken not to superimpose upon the Scriptures an interpretation that is unwarranted. Prophecies are written in poetic language not allegorical. Allegories are understood to have double meanings with its own properties and

proper laws of interpretation. The Bible uses few allegories and is not normally a book of allegories. Special care must be maintained not to use allegorical interpretation to destroy the evident meaning of a passage.

Scriptures progressively extend divine truth and wisdom. The Bible speaks wisdom not of this world, or of the rulers of this world. It was written in a mystery which in the fullness of time would be made known by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:6-15). Mysteries were not fully understood but identified there was to be a complete revelation of a subject to be given. Bible truths are not an enigma. They arouse curiosity to be fully comprehended, making the incomprehensible into a reasonable and divine truth. One of the great mysteries was revealed, to wit the Gentiles were fellow-heirs, fellow-members, fellow-partakers of the promises of Christ Jesus through the gospel wherein the grace of God was fully seen.

The unsearchable truths of salvation revealed made all men see the dispensation of the mystery which for all ages had been hidden in God. The intent of this mystery was that the church was to make known the manifold wisdom of God according to His eternal purpose in Christ Jesus (Eph 3:1-14). The church was purchased by Jesus' own blood (Acts 20:28). It is His church (Mat 16:18-20). Individuals are added to the church (Acts 2:38-47). The church is the bride of Christ (2 Cor 11:1, 2; Rev 19:7-17). Each of these truths was seen in a typical in the Old Testament being revealed in the New Testament.

The supernatural factors which went into developing the Bible were often unknown to the Bible writers. Depth of meanings recognized in the last dispensation were hidden from earliest Bible pens men (2 Pet 1:10-13). They partook of the inexhaustible wisdom of God and made it belong to the ages. Improved exegetical apparatuses have made it easy to understand God's will for the church. The church is the repository of the truth of God (Jude 3). Her task is to faithfully keep the scriptures, rightly divide the word, present themselves approved unto God as workmen who are not ashamed and rightly handle the word of God (Gal 1:6-11). Prophetic anticipation was fully realized in the ministry of Christ, His apostles and the church. Christ is at the heart of Old Testament prophecies. The idea of **truth and obligation** to God are main factors being august and compelling conviction. "Truth and right" are absolute, eternal, authoritative and presented from the beginning of human history to the end of time. Truth cannot be quibbled over. The relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament is that the dispensations have in successive ages embraced the understanding that the New Testament is the last will and testament of Christ (Gal 3:15-29). The total outcome of the anticipation of Christ and His church is legitimate and historical culminated in salvation for all mankind. The truth sets man free (Jn 8:32; 17:17). Truth is an element of pardon and redemption. The final word of God is the "truth of the gospel of salvation" (Eph 1:13).

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

The Lord willing, I plan to leave for Nigeria on January 9, 2012 for a 19 day trip. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen. Mathew 28:19-20. I have bought my tickets and now I am waiting on my visa application to be accepted. I had to prepare for my visa request; a host letter of invitation from Biodun, my passport, my bank statement, my photos, my visa payment receipt, my application confirmation, my completed application, my confirmed airfare itinerary, a return envelope, a money order and a registered envelop to complete the process. I hope it is accepted the first time through. Now the Nigerian Embassy knows more about me than I do.

I will visit Biodun Owolabi for the first several days in Abeokuta (about 80 miles north of Lagos, Western Nigeria). Biodun is the Director of the West Nigeria Christian College and School of Biblical Studies. His school will be receiving the next Mission Printing ocean container of tracts, hopefully while I am there. Belt Line volunteers have prepared these tracts in the last few months. We plan to have several meetings with preachers, church members, students and others in the area who are very interested in distributing the literature throughout West Nigeria. Biodun and I will visit Makinde Olufemi, who is the Director of the South West School of Evangelism in Ibadan about 40 miles north of Abeokuta. On January 18, I fly from Lagos to the eastern part of Nigeria to Enugu. Reuben Egwu is the Director of the Comprehensive School of Management and Technology in Abakaliki about 30 miles away. We sent the August 2011 container there. Reuben has already asked for another container of tracts. Reuben has created a Non-Government Organization called 'Giving to the Needies Mission International'. This group will pay for my round trip domestic airfare to Enugu. I am scheduled to speak in a Leadership Conference on elders and living the life of an elder. We plan to have several meetings in the first part of my week and hopefully we can visit with Monday John Akpakpan. He is a well known evangelist who received our first container to Abak, Nigeria in August 2010. Sylvester Imoug will try to visit with us half way between his village and Abakaliki. I met Monday and Sylvester at Mission Printing about three years ago.

It is very important that I make this visit for Mission Printing as well as for Belt Line Rd. I tried to go last year, but the political situation had become too dangerous for foreigners. I am told that the north and south areas in Nigeria are still extremely dangerous. The center east and west is the area I plan to visit. Please pray for my safety and success in helping spread the gospel throughout the world. We read in Philippians 1:21... "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Richard L. Renfro

"Give ear to my words, O Jehovah, Consider my meditation. Harken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God; For unto thee do I pray. O Jehovah, in the morning shalt thou hear my voice; In the morning will I order my prayer unto thee, and will keep watch" (Psm 5:1-3).

The Tongue

"**Death and life** are in the power of the tongue; And they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof (Pro 18:21). "A man that beareth false witness against his neighbor is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow" (Prov 25:18). "For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; Their throat is an open sepulchre; They flatter with their tongue" (Psm 5:9). "Jehovah will cut off all flattering lips, The tongue that speaketh great things; Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; Our lips are our own: who is lord over us" (Psm 12:3, 4)? "Therefore I say unto you, every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever shall speak against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in that which is to come. Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree corrupt, and its fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by its fruit. Ye offspring of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. The good man out of his good treasure bringeth forth good things: and the evil man out of his evil treasure bringeth forth evil things" (Mat 12:31-35).

The character of an individual is often exposed by use of their tongue. Speech displays an index which has been inscribed on an individual's mind. Careless use of the tongue is a display of mindlessness and dissipation of moral fiber. Redemptive value is the best means of evaluating speech.

The Bible speaks of different types of tongues which impinge on good morals. Good counsel from the Bible allows individuals to reconsider their daily conduct. It has been estimated that a person in their lifetime speaks enough words to fill over 500 typed pages. Careful and thoughtful consideration comes of discipline and regulation. Restraining the tongue is a matter of forethought and careful control over words. Jesus cannot be Lord over our lives if He is not Lord over our speech. The reference of bridling the tongue is timely and unique (Jas 3:9, 10).

Types of speech: Lying tongue (Psm 5:9), Proud tongue (Psm 12:3, 4), Overused tongue (Eccl 5:2, 3), Swift tongues (Prov 18:13; Jas 1:19), Cursing tongue (Rom 3:13, 14), Worldly tongue (1 Jn 2:17-20), Backbiting tongue (Prov 25:23; Rom 1:30), Tale bearing tongue (Prov 18:18; Lev 19:16; Phil 2:3; Rom 14:19), Piercing tongue (Prov 12:18) and Hypocritical tongue (Prov 1:9). Sins of the lips are not trivial. It seems that speech has become entertainment. Slander, gossip and naughtiness are the craze in song, programs for weekly consumption wherein God is cursed, mankind is defamed and society undermined. James said, "...these things ought not to be so" (Jas 3:1-10). Accountability for all words underscores the teaching of the Bible (Mat 12:30-37). Disallowing corrupt and worthless speech encourages gracious and becoming speech. Confession is made with the mouth unto salvation (Rom 10:1-7). Great care should be exercised over our tongues. Realizing when the tongue is out of control is a major step in the direction of faithfulness.

Don Hatch

Family News:

News at Belt Line.
Call in your information to the office at
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening.

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

November 6, 2011

Front foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

Back foyer: Thomas Rathbun & Ilene Ashworth

November 13, 2011

Front foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

Back foyer: Glen Kelly & B.C. Fowler

Sermon Titles

November 6, 2011

a.m: "A Model Sermon"

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15

p.m: "The Opening Of The Books"

Scripture: Rev. 20:11-15

November 13, 2011

a.m: "The Kingdom Within"

Scripture: Luke 17:20-21

p.m: "Consider My Mediations"

Scripture: Psalm 5:1-8

Contribution Counters

Mike Batot and Darrell Allen

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet *Sunday* in Rm #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will be at 6:00 a.m. in the annex. All men are invited to this period of time for thought, scripture and prayer. The fellowship is edifying.

NEWS OF THE SICK

·**Grady & B.C. Fowler's** son, **Tim** has a fungal infection and no cancer as was first thought. He is being treated with medication. They removed 5 polyps last Monday. Due to internal bleeding he is back in Parkland Hospital. Please no visitors at this time.

·**Laquita Baker** is now at home recovering from surgery. Please keep her in your prayers.

·**Roy and Helen Thomas** are having health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

·**Maxine Prude** has been moved to Sandy Lake Rehab in Coppell. She is in room #417.

·**Ira and Nola Wolfe** are having health issues.

·**Beverly McKey** had successful day surgery last week. Please keep her in your prayers.

·**Evelyn Armstrong** fell and cut her lip last week. She had it sewn up and is now back at Lakewood Village.

·**James Brown** is at home after successful gall bladder surgery.

·**Samantha Howard** is scheduled for surgery Tuesday, November 1st at Las Colinas Medical.

·**Perry Cotham** fell and broke bones in his spine and is now in a nursing center. He will be 100 years old in January. Please keep him in your prayers.

·**Mary Rathbun** will have surgery on Tuesday, November 1st. Please keep her and Thomas in your prayers.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, November 8th at 9:30 a.m. The lesson topic will be "**Unbelief**" taught by Beverly McKey.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Debra Alonzo, Maxine Prude, Serena Hatch Jacob, Evelyn Armstrong, Letitia Beverly, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney

TIME CHANGE

Don't forget to change your clocks Saturday night, November 5th **back one hour.**

AUDITORIUM CLASS

The Sunday morning class will be studying "**Restoration: 1st Century Christianity in the 21st Century – can it be done?**"

THANK YOU

Your thoughts, prayers and cards are greatly appreciated. I hope to be back soon. **James Brown**

I want to thank Henry Seidmeyer and Bill Matthews for standing in for me while Joann and I went to New Mexico for a few days. They did a wonderful job of preaching and teaching. **Don Hatch**

It is with deep regret to announce that **Melvin & Evelyn Armstrong** placed membership at Lake Wood Village yesterday. They are sad to leave us, but happy to be there.

NEW ADDRESS

Perry Cotham's new address is: Town Hall Estates Nursing Center, 824 W. Mayfield Road, Arlington, Texas 76015-3647

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Daylight Savings Time – November 6th
– Change your clocks back 1 hour.

Nov. 8th – Ladies Class – 9:30 a.m.

UPCOMING NOV. BIRTHDAY'S

- Julie Roses – 11/5
- Frances LaFerney – 11/7
- Bill Matthews – 11/8
- Charlene Carroll – 11/10
- Doris Selby – 11/13
- Gary Workman – 11/14
- James Brown – 11/14
- Nancy Pond – 11/15
- Nathan Allen – 11/17
- Lyda McAlister – 11/23

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

- Mike & Elizabeth Garrison – 11/12
- Don & Margaret Lewis – 11/23
- Ken & Carol Lee – 11/25

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
Please contact Mike Batot @ (972)741-2397*

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE/MORNING</u>		11/6/11	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
·Leo Townsend	· Bill Paschall		· Jerry McKey
·Thomas Rathbun	·Marvin Brown		· Denzil Myers
·Nathan Allen	·Robert Taylor		
·Kenny Mayer	·J.C. Ross		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Henry Seidmeyer			· Mike Batot
·Dorris Walker			Mark 1:9-15
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Robert Ruckman
			· Mike Garrison
			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Scot Allen
			Rev. 20:11-15
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Jerry McKey

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Bill Paschall

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Jerry Baker

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	75	88	80	100
A.M. Worship	140	155	145	150
P.M. Worship	80	80	75	75
Wed. Class	77	80	80	75
Ladies Bible Class	23	21	24	25
Contribution	\$4307	\$4467	\$4933	\$5553

MISSIONS

- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Glen & Kuin Tattersall – Australia
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
- Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
- Hyderabad Church of Christ - Hyderabad, India
- Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
- Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
- Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
- Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
- Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India
- Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
- David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT

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1202 N. Belt Line Rd. · Irving, TX 75061

PERIODICALS POSTAGE

**PAID
AT IRVING, TEXAS**