



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

February 6, 2023

Volume 15 Number 6

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 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

MINISTER

Doug Post

Email:

doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Darrell Allen

Richard Renfro

Dean Webb

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham

beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear - Romans 10:17

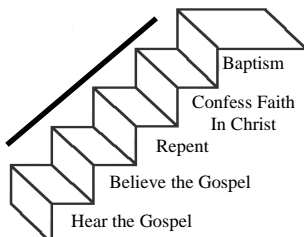
Believe - John 8:24

Repent - Acts 17:30

Confess - Romans 10:10

Be Baptized - Acts 22:16

Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Calvinism (Part Eleven) – Limited Atonement

Doug Post

Having discussed *Unconditional Election*, we now turn our attention to analyzing another major tenet of Calvinism referred to as *Limited Atonement*. According to Calvinism, God arbitrarily chooses everyone to either be saved or condemned. Man has no free will in the matter. However, the doctrine of *Limited Atonement* teaches that Christ died only for the elect – only for those chosen to be saved. This necessarily implies that if you did not make it on the Lord’s *Unconditional Election* “list,” then Christ did not shed His blood for you, because Christ died only for the *elect* – those unconditionally elected. Therefore, Christ’s atonement for sin is said to be applied or limited to God already chose to be saved.

- **JOHN 3:16 ACCORDING TO CALVINISM:** “For God so loved **THE ELECT** that He gave His only begotten Son for **ONLY THE ELECT**, that **WHOEVER OF THE ELECT** believes in Him, **WILL NOT** perish, but have everlasting life.”
- **JOHN 3:16 ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE:** “For God so loved **THE WORLD** that He gave His only begotten Son, that **WHOEVER** believes in Him, **SHOULD NOT** perish, but have everlasting life.”

The Bible teaches Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). However, the doctrine of *Limited Atonement* implies the *unconditionally elect* are the only lost folks. What do you mean, Doug? Just this. If, in the long ago, God chose some to be permanently saved and some to be permanently lost, then to whom did Jesus come seeking and saving? Moreover, if God is totally in control, per Calvinism, then how could a person be **lost**? Did God “lose” and “find” the same one at the same time?

If the *unconditionally elect* folks are saved, and Jesus came to seek and save the lost, then, the elect who are permanently saved from the foundation of the world, must be the ones who were lost. But how can that be since the saved are always saved and the lost are always lost? Since the *unconditionally elect* were *elected* way before the crucifixion of Christ, then what is the need of the crucifixion? Paul speaks of the Ephesians as having been dead in their trespasses and sins, lost and separated from God (Eph.2:1-3) being without hope and without God in the world – while alive and living on earth at that time (Ephesians 2:12). If they were *unconditionally elected* in eternity, then how could they ever have been lost prior to Paul’s letter to them?

Paul writes: “**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God**” (1 Cor.1:18). A contrast is made between those “**perishing**” and those “**being saved.**” Both are present tense or continuous action. Paul is saying that the condition of the lost is not static (unchangeable) but neither is the condition of the saved. However, if one is without Christ, then that person finds him or herself in the process of perishing. It is by no means a “done deal.” The current condition is not permanent, if one repents and turns to Christ. **Those who are lost are those without Christ, not because God chose them to be lost.** All people have free will to choose Jesus and live, taking advantage of His atoning and cleansing blood, or not. His atoning sacrifice is not limited to a few but is for **ALL**. The Bible closes with an invitation from heaven: “**And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely**” (Rev.22:17). The Spirit, by His inspired and completed word, and the church that goes into all the world with the Spirit’s word, invites **ALL** to come accept the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line Road Church of Christ

Call in your information to the office at:

972-790-8606 by Sunday evening



Ongoing Health Concerns: Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Anne Herriage, Katherine Cox, Marinell Zaun, Nelda Bell Newton, Donna Davis, Doris Selby, Carol Partridge, Mike Haynes, Jan Smithson, Jerry Grantham, Karen Rathbun, Terry Henson, LaFon Simpson, Dean Webb, Keden Shrum, Chuck Murrell, Bobby Allen, Jeanene Heilman

Home Bound Members: Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Anne Herriage (room #204-A)
Elma Lawrence (room #516) and Fernando Ybarra (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur**
Polly Roses (room #206) and Donna Davis (room #312) – **West Fork Village**
Glen Kelly – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)

Military: Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

UPDATES:

Dean Webb is home from the hospital after having heart valve surgery last week. Everything went well. He needs our continued prayers for a speedy recovery.

Chuck Murrell is home from the hospital. He is bed ridden. He has asked for prayers for he and his family, especially his mom as she is taking care of him.

Vicki Catlin has Covid.

Billy Whitfield is home after a stay in the hospital with pneumonia. He is also dealing with complications from the medications he was given in the hospital.

Heath Stapleton's daughter, **Elizabeth** had surgery Friday night for a broken arm.

Don Vaughan is home from the hospital after having jaw surgery.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our military, first responders and Hurricane victims.

If you have not picked up your new pictorial directory, please contact the church office and you will be given one.

Sunday, March 12, 2023 – We are planning to have a Pot Luck Luncheon after morning worship services. Please bring your favorite dish to share with others and enjoy the wonderful fellowship. Contact **Carolyn Renfro** or **Melissa Allen** for any questions you may have.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – February 12, 2023

Front Foyer: Jerry Grantham & Sandy Hall

Back Foyer: Myrtle Wade & Patti Kidd

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THOSE TO SERVE ON: **February 12, 2023**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Eula Hedrick	2/1
Mariana Pauli	2/11
Kelli Bryant	2/12
Cathy Taylor	2/12
Joy Webb	2/12
Nora Phillips	2/24
Carol Partridge	2/28

Song Leaders – a.m. Jerry McKey
p.m. Nathan Allen

Prayers – a.m. Darrell Allen
Joseph Paul
p.m. Jerry McKey
Darrell Allen

Scripture Reading – a.m. George Tripp
Exodus 7:14-17
p.m. David Cofer
1 Samuel 30:1-6

Lord’s Table – (Both Services) Thomas Rathbun and Richard Renfro

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>2/5/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	31	31	100
A.M. Worship	65	61	150
P.M. Worship	35	39	80
Wed. Class	0	27	85
Contribution	\$7,237	\$5,267	\$4,871

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

(None)

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

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 – *Jose Mata, Michael Oliver*

At the start of any new year, how many of us set resolutions or goals for the coming year? We often begin with excitement and determination, but then life happens. We slip. Sometimes we encounter small bumps in the road; sometimes we must face huge challenges. Then before we know it, February is here, our focus fades; and we return to the “status quo” of our life.

Aren't we blessed that as Christians, God's love and mercy for us never fades or fails? His plans are always perfect and work for good (Romans 8:28). His timing is always perfect (Psalms 18:30). God promises to always be with us, in good times and in tough times (Heb. 13:5, Deut. 31:6,8). Most of all, God loved us enough, to give His Son to die for our sins so that we have the hope and promise of eternal life in Heaven. (John 3:16, Romans 5:8)

Each day we wake up is a gift, and we get an opportunity for a fresh start. Let us “resolve” each day to love God with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our mind. (Matt. 22:37). Let us “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness ...” (Matt. 6:33) as we strive to live for eternity, remembering our citizenship is in heaven. (Phi. 1:3:20). As we go about our day, let's remember that we serve God in everything we do. “We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...” (Eph. 2:10). May we always give God the glory and the thanks for all of our blessings, for every good and perfect gift comes from Him (James 1:17). Let us love one another (Matt. 6:39; 1 John 4:7,11; 1 Peter 1:22).

One of the greatest gifts we are given as Christians is loving brothers and sisters in Christ. My family and I would like to thank all of you for the many calls, texts, cards, visits, and prayers during the last few weeks while I have been dealing with health challenges. After my surgery this past week, thankfully I am seeing much improvement, and we appreciate your continued prayers as I work to regain my strength. I look forward to being able to be with you in worship again.

Please pray for our sick, our shut-ins, and for those who have lost loved ones.

Dean Webb

**Belt Line Road Church of Christ
1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, Texas 75061**

