

**June 1, 2010**

**SERMONS FOR SUNDAY**

**June 6, 2010**

a.m. "*The New Song*"

Scripture: Revelation 5:9-14

p.m. "*Repentance or Retribution*"

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:7-14

**There Is A God**

Don Hatch

**The existence of God** is the first statement in the Bible (Gen 1:1, 2). Moses uniquely gave Elohim [God] a predominate place among the gods of the world. Moses had been reared in Egypt the land of many gods. He declared that the great "I am" was the true God who revealed Himself and there was no other God (Rom 1:18-20).

**Men are incurably religious.** They have created many gods from their imagination. Jehovah God revealed Himself at various times and in unique manners (Heb 1:1-5). All nations everywhere have practiced religion and worship of a deity. Where did this belief come from? Man cannot invent God, future life, altar, priest or any positive institutions of religion. This anthropological argument has never been disproved. In the midst of many gods there is always a glimmer or relic of a time when there was pure monotheism [one God]. The younger polytheism is the fewer the gods they have.

**The universe is an effect** not a cause. By observation of the universe it is clear that we do not live in a "chaos" but a universe that has design, unity and order. Order demands a Creator and requires an infinite mind and power to create and sustain. It is reasonable to believe that the God of the Bible is that First Cause. Design and purpose in the universe demands intent and not randomness. The universe reflects systems and a high degree of organization. It is obvious that blind chance is not a valid solution. The possibility of random creation with order is like blowing up a print shop and as the dust clears there remains an Unabridged Dictionary. Such is unreasonable. Mankind has a moral sense of right and wrong and it is not merely instinct as a bird or wolf. Man has a moral awareness that cannot come from observation of nature. An all-wise God planted it in man (Eccl 3:11; Rom 2:14, 15).

**The Bible is proof of a God.** The uniqueness of the Bible being written over a 1600 year period of time with approximately 40 men writing on subjects like man, sin, God, heaven, eternal life and the soul. They never contradict each other on any matter. The prophecies of the Bible are extraordinary. Three hundred specific statements about the Lord Jesus are given. Jesus Christ of Nazareth fulfilled every one of them accurately and completely. No other book but the Holy Bible can make this claim. The prophets predicted Jesus' birth, life, preaching,

miracles, death, burial, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father. The resurrection of Jesus Christ was a supernatural event to which over 500 people attested. In any court of law their testimony would be overwhelming. His apostles were doubters until they had proof of a resurrected Lord. Paul, Saul of Tarsus, was converted on the road to Damascus. This man was seeking to destroy Christianity. Yet he said he could verify that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead (Rom 1:1-5; 6:1-11). Many arguments can be advanced to prove the Bible. The Bible has a theme. That theme is Jesus Christ came from heaven to redeem mankind from sin.

**The God of the Bible is unique.** God is in heaven (Dan 2:28). Heaven declares His handiwork. The Bible exists and claims to be from God. It claims inspiration (2 Tim 3:16, 17). He is eternal, underived, has life within Himself. He is the source of all other life, omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, omnibenevolent and able to save mankind via the blood of Jesus Christ. The day when belief in God and an after-life vanishes from the earth there will be a terrible blight upon moral and spiritual aptitudes. There is not a force large enough to move an entire people back to goodness once faith in God is lost. Where belief in God vanishes from the human heart a gate opens allowing every vice plunging the world into a dungeon of the damned. The God of the Bible set forth a plan of redemption.

**Unlike most world religions Christianity** gives a scheme of redemption. Those who deny God are obligated to show how life began and is sustained. Man has not been able to create life. Since everything conceivable was caused by something or someone, the tracing of First Cause always leads to faith in someone greater than man. The Bible teaches that the Creator was God. Man cannot truly comprehend God, but that should not prevent belief in Him. We can be certain that God exists and created man. The universe is operated on law, order and design. One must believe in a lawgiver. The unmistakable evidence is that the universe is an effect of a greater cause. The heavens declare the glory of God and His handiwork manifests it day unto day (Psm 19:1, 2).

**Worshiping a god that is the invention** of man was what Paul, the apostle of Christ, found on Mar's Hill, in Athens Greece. He set forth the **God of the Bible** as the only true and living God. What was worshiped by the Athenians was deficient because of ignorance. The authority of Paul to proclaim a living God was that he could prove it by signs, wonders and divers miracles (Heb 2:1-5). Moreover, those gods made by man were but graven images. The God of the Bible is not graven, but is spirit. He does not have a manmade building in which to be worshiped. He can be worshiped successfully around the world in spirit and truth (Jn 4:23, 24). He is not served by human hand for He needs nothing. Yet, He seeks fellowship with mankind. Creation, providence and being sustained come from the gracious hand of God, not a rock. Man needs to seek after this God. If they do they will find Him (Act 17:22-34).

## **FAMILY CARE: A Message from Our Shepherds**

This week starts off our Summertime Gospel Preaching on Wednesday evenings. June 14-16 is our VBS .....We have to be there to gain the most if we possibly can attend.

Are those that are closest to you close to God???????

Have we made proper plans to spend an eternal home in Heaven????

Are we maintaining an active position to inherit an eternal home in Heaven??? These are important questions we should keep addressed each day of our life.

Belt Line Road is a congregation where growth spiritually and numerically should be occurring. Truth is preached and taught every time we come together as a body of believers. The entire family is to be commended for their love of God's word and striving to keep his commandments. We have many great works taking place that build up the brethren and that reach out to those who have not surrendered their lives to Christ. Our preacher is one of the most dedicated preachers in the brotherhood. Always straight forward lessons of truth from God's word preached in a simple understanding way. Our teachers are truly dedicated servants working in God's Kingdom. The messages you hear from them will be truth taught from God's word. Belt Line Road is a family that any loving person ought to want to be a part of.

Our mission printing program continues to excel in preparing materials for Christians and non-Christians alike, to be shipped throughout the world. In a time when so many congregations are preaching and teaching those things that tickle the ears and soothe consciences of the unrepentant, we must stand tall for the Lord and speak His word as it is truly revealed. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:2-4). Everyone that possibly can ought to assemble with the saints at every meeting time. You are missed when you are not present, and you will miss being fellowshipped. Read Matt. 16:26, 27

Remember to pray for those that are sick and shut-in! Have a great week serving God!  
Dean Webb

"For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or what shall a man give in exchange for his life? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then shall he render unto every man according to his deeds" (Mat 16:26, 27).

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Our Vacation Bible School** is almost here. We have an exciting subject for this year's lessons. The Prophets of the Bible were guided by the Holy Spirit (2 Pet 1:20, 21). They spoke in many manners and ways expressing the will of God. From earliest times men like Enoch spoke of God (Jude 14-16). God has always sought fellowship with mankind. He made provisions for mankind to know Him. Moses as a great prophet of God and was allowed to write the first five books of the Bible. He was counted worthy of great honor and guided the house of Israel into becoming a great nation. Moses was faithful to God and had testimony

borne to him that he was a servant of the Most High God. The history of Moses manifests a great faith in God. He chose to suffer and share the ill treatment of the Israelites, rather than the pleasure of sin for a season. He looked to the recompense of the reward of Christ for he saw the unseen and invisible things of God (Heb 11:23-31).

**The Vacation Bible School** will present the prophets to our youth and adults. The teachers are nearing the completion of their study and decorating their class rooms. Each night the classes will assemble with these great men and women of God to hear of the Prophets. We hope that the lessons will cause the children to see that all who seek to serve God are blessed. They were dynamic figures who speak to all ages with tremendous challenges. No men ever presented a more colorful picture of diligence and service to God. The student will find in them a statement of religious, social and family living. These men of God gave us an interpretation of history that no one can afford to miss. They unfolded the eternal purpose of God for His people.

**The prophets threw a light** upon their generation and all generations to follow by announcing eternal principles of divine providence which always operates whenever similar circumstances prevail. It is a truism that God planned all things and all things work together for good to them that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose (Rom 8:28). God still has a plan [Scheme of Redemption] for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is indeed easy to get the word of the Lord today and find prescriptions for life, godliness and sobriety (Tit 3:11-14).

**A careful study of the Prophets** is sure to influence everyone and help all model their lives by their standards. The greatest Prophet of all is Jesus Christ (Act 3:22-26). All need to listen to Him for His teachings lead to salvation. Don Hatch

**Please!**

**Pray for this effort**

**Plan to attend**

**Participate by inviting someone**

**Bring someone with you**

**And pass out invitations for about 1 ½ hours**

**On Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00- 11:00 am**

## **GREETER ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Sunday, June 6, 2010**

**Front foyer:** Stan & Doris Selby

**Back foyer:** Max Melton, Nancy Pond, Roberta Price

### **Sunday, June 13, 2010**

**Front foyer:** Richard & Carolyn Renfro, Carol Swinney

**Back foyer:** Bill & Linda Matthews

## **Family News:**

### **MISSION PRINTING**

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

### **SINGING SESSION**

The **Sunday afternoon** singing session will meet in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

### **MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL**

The **Monday morning** devotional will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

### **SUMMERTIME GOSPEL PREACHING**

Our second lesson starts with Kevin Rhodes speaking on "What is Man?" If you have any questions on the destiny of man, our lessons this Summer will answer these questions. Bring a friend!

### **CHRIST'S HAVEN**

The Christ's Haven van will be here to pickup groceries on Tuesday, **June 15<sup>th</sup>**.

### **RESPONSE**

**Bobby England** (Brenda's husband) surrendered his life to Christ last Wednesday evening. We're so happy for you, Bobby; we love you!

### **HAPPY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY**

Please join us on this special occasion when our parents Don & Joann Hatch celebrate 50 years of marriage at a reception in their honor on **Saturday, the fifth of June**, two thousand ten from two o'clock to five o'clock in the afternoon at the Belt Line Road Church of Christ Annex, 3344 Stovall St., Irving, Texas. Terri & Jack Fortner, Sherri Hatch, Tim & Rebecca Hatch, Serena & Arthur Jacob. Your sharing in our joy on this occasion is the only gift we wish.

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Phoebe Latham** had perfect attendance in Bible Class & all of her lessons last quarter. Way to go, Phoebe!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Be sure to invite friends & neighbors so that we may have the best VBS yet: **June 14-16**.

Come and help hand out invitations on **Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** from 9a.m. – 11a.m.

If you'd like to participate, we are beginning to collect cookies for our breaks at VBS.

### SUMMER YOUTH SERIES

The Summer Youth Series begins on **June 8** at the Handley Church of Christ in Ft. Worth.

### HELP NEEDED

Please see the signup sheet in the front foyer if you will be able to sit with Billie Gilliam.

### THOSE TO SERVE IN JUNE

**Lord's table: (front)** Mike Batot, James Gilliam, Denzil Myers, Stan Selby, Henry Seidmeyer, Thomas Rathbun, Jerry Baker (back); JC Ross, Robert Taylor, Keith Vaughn, Derrol Allen, Bill Paschall, Roy Martin, Max Melton

**p.m.** Marvin Brown, Glen Kelly

**Card Pickup: a.m.** Ethan & Toby Howard **p.m.** Scot Allen, Kenny Mayer

**Contribution Counters:** Glen Kelly, Thomas Rathbun

**Communion Preparers:** Vern & Melody Lundquist

### NEWS OF THE SICK

·**Marjorie Bennett** will have a cardio version on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

·**BC Fowler** requests prayer.

·**Everett Newton** is now home.

·**Tom Prince** has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure.

·**Virginia Stull** is now home.

·**Dorris Walker** got a good report from his tests.

·**Judi Bowman** (Nancy Pond's sister-in-law) came through surgery, but now has blood clots.

·**Mack Dwyer** (Elizabeth Garrison's son) spent time in Baylor with chest pain, but has now been released.

·**Claude Holmes** (Elizabeth Garrison's cousin) underwent successful surgery, but now has some complications.

·**Lillian Porter** (Marcella's sister-in-law) underwent successful surgery last week; pathology reports came back clear.

·**Beverly Sweat's son** was reported missing, but he called in & is ok.

### CONTINUOUS PRAYER CONCERNS:

Evelyn Armstrong, Bobby Bowen, Grady Fowler, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Hank Henry, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Everett Newton, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Leo Townsend, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Mark Curtis (Lotah Franklin's friend), Gail Hieronymus (Mike Garrison's daughter), Johnny Williams (Bobbie's son).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Be sure and mark your calendar -**

- June 5: Hatch anniversary reception
- June 6: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- June 6: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- June 8: Summer Youth Series, Handley/Ft. Worth
- June 9: Kevin Rhodes, "What is Man?"
- June 12: Pass out VBS invitations
- June 14-16: Vacation Bible School

### LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

#### Front Table

- Mike Batot
- James Gilliam
- Denzil Myers
- Stan Selby
- Henry Seidmeyer
- Thomas Rathbun
- Jerry Baker
- Brandon Howard

#### Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Derrol Allen
- Bill Paschall
- Roy Martin

### SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Jerry McKey
- Bill Matthews
- Mike Garrison

### A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- John Mayer  
Revelation 5:9-14

### A.M. SONG LEADER

- Garl Latham

### SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Denzil Myers
- Jerry McKey

### P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Bill Paschall  
2 Samuel 12:7-14

### P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Darrell Allen

### LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Marvin Brown
- Glen Kelly

## **COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

· Mike Batot

### **FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET**

	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Avg.</u></b>	<b><u>Goal</u></b>
Sun. Class	89	92	82	125
A.M. Worship	155	148	147	210
P.M. Worship	85	81	77	112
Wed. Class	83	72	77	110
Ladies Bible Class	-	-	28	35
Contribution	\$4848	\$5378	\$5398	\$5433

### ***MISSIONS***

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia

Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa

Roland & Rose Mohsen – France

Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine

Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia

Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia

Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions

Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX

Foster's Home for Children – Stephenille, TX

Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India

Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching

Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia

Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web

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