

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

March 28, 2010
Volume 3 Number

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
Garl Latham
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

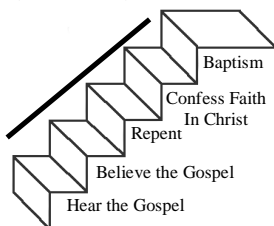
CUSTODIANS

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)



Reconciliation God's Answer To Sin

Don Hatch

In the beginning man was not separated from God by sin. He needed nothing to “bind him back” to God. In that state man had free concourse and fellowship with his Creator (Gen 1&2). God freely spoke to Adam, whose inner man was in the image of God (Gen 1:26, 27). There was no sin and no shame.

The advent of sin changed mankind's spiritual condition. Sin created an atmosphere of fear, “and they heard the voice of God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Jehovah God amongst the trees of the garden. And Jehovah called unto the man, and said unto him where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself” (Gen 3:8-10). Sin produced shame, guilt and a desire for concealment from God. That which had bound them to God was purity but sin had destroyed it. In this state there was a need for a religious means to “bind mankind back to God”. Man needed to be reconciled to God, freed from his guilt and restored to fellowship. There was a separation of man from his Creator (Isa 59:2). Sin is an offence against the dignity and majesty of God and reconciliation is required. The word reconciliation refers to a process of changing something thoroughly and adjusting it to a standard. An example would be the reconciliation of a checkbook matched against the standard of the bank. In the Bible the word refers to the process of mankind changing themselves by adjusting their life to the standard of God's perfect character (Rom 12:1-5; 2 Cor 5:17-21).

Mankind must be active in the process of reconciliation. Reconciliation is reconciling one person to another. In this case God is our standard by which we measure our lives (Rom 5:1-11). God provided “propitiation” by interposing Jesus' life as the means to reconcile mankind to Himself (Rom 3:25; 1 Jn 2:1-5). The need for reconciliation is pointed out when adjectives like “ungodly, without strength, sinner, enemies” are used to describe sinful mankind (Rom 5:6-11). The cross of Jesus Christ thoroughly changed mankind's relationship with God (Eph 2:14-18; Col 1:20-23). Mankind was rendered “set free from the consequences of sin”. The substitutionary atonement of Jesus brought about a means to ameliorate the status of mankind and the attitude of God. God could deal with souls in the light of Christ's death upon the cross. Notice that God is never reconciled to man.

God is immutable [never changing Heb 13-20]. Reconciliation is only possible in one direction. God accepted what Jesus did on the cross as a means to reconcile man and offer salvation. Believers must be reconciled as a means of redemption by the blood of Jesus.

The religion which binds mankind back to God must be one which originates with the divine and not in the human mind. God alone proposes the conditions and mankind must accept or reject them. Mankind cannot ascertain the will of God except that God reveals to them an acceptable system of religion. Worship is revealed not created by man (2 Pet 1:20, 21; Heb 1:1-5). The Bible represents mankind as accepting God's will concerning worship Gen 4:1-15). Abel offered a sacrifice to God in faith (Heb 11:1-5). Cain offered to God that which did not come by hearing (Rom 10:16, 17). Cain's sacrifice was denied and Abel's accepted. This says a great deal about worship and what God will accept or decline. Mankind cannot add to or take away from God's revealed plan and be acceptable to Him.

Repeatedly, in history mankind has fumbled, struggled, made many missteps by adding unbidden items to the revealed worship. Worship is not a trial and error system. Knowledge must be sought and gained to be acceptable in worship to God. God's dealing with mankind within His system of religion is endorsed and always acceptable unto Him. Within the confines of “true religion” is found the means of reconciliation. The crowning act to prove that God had a plan [scheme of worship and redemption] Jesus Christ of Nazareth died on the cross. Religion and worship are fitted to meet the needs of mankind and equip them to embrace the truth, grace, mercy and reconciliation of God. Successive dispensations of mankind are Patriarchal, Mosaic and now Christian. From the earliest worship of Cain and Abel to the modern man, God has always required “faith” and “faithfulness” in worship (Heb 11). God made available a plan with binding conditions to manifest His glory and the effulgence of grace.

Reconciliation sheds abroad in the human heart the love of God. Love displaces lovelessness. While we are in sin we are in a state of being lost. When we embrace the love of God it will result in the soul being saved from sin and sin's ravages upon our lives. If God loved us enough to send His Son to die for our sins, while under the sentence of condemnation, there is little doubt that we should worship Him in spirit and truth (Jn 4:23,24). Christ's death secured for us all spiritual blessings, to which we are justified (Rom 8:26-30; 5:9). According to God's power and longsuffering He makes mankind “meet to be partakers of the inheritance of saints of light” (Col 1:11, 12). It is His good pleasure that through Jesus Christ we can be reconciled to Him through the blood of Jesus (Col 1:13-23). In reconciliation He removes blemishes of sin by giving us redemption and forgiveness. The peace that passes all understanding is in reconciliation (Phil 4:7).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

Discouragement! Have you ever been discouraged? Probably you have been discouraged at some point in your life. Why were you discouraged? Was it your fault, or someone else's? Now be careful before you blame someone else.

There may be some times when our discouragements are the fault of someone else other than ourselves, but most of the time it is our very own fault. Maybe we are not easily contented or we expect too much.

Jeremiah was this way. He has been called the weeping prophet. He longed for the nation of Israel to be saved. He pleaded for their repentance. He proclaimed God's word of judgment to them. Yet, they repented not. What did Jeremiah do? He called God a liar. Read Jeremiah 20:7. Jeremiah had been called by God to preach. No doubt he thought about God's promise that his word would not return to him void. He believed in the power of God's word. He must have felt, "we are going to have a revival in Israel. I'm going to preach God's word and the whole nation will repent and turn to God." So, Jeremiah preached. Forty years Jeremiah preached. Can you imagine a preacher preaching for forty years and not having any response? Discouraged? Indeed he was!

So Jeremiah turned to God. "You deceived me," he said. Did God lie to Jeremiah? Certainly not! God didn't call Jeremiah to succeed in his preaching. He simply called Jeremiah to preach. Jeremiah's failure was in his own mind. He was discouraged because of his own expectations.

We must remember to what it is we have committed ourselves. Not success—but faithfulness! God has called us to be faithful. We must continue to do what we can and rejoice when others come to help us. But we must never become such as to expect anything except an opportunity to serve. ~Jerry McKey

"For the word of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us who are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And the discernment of the discerning will I bring to nought. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God, it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save them that believe. Seeing that Jews ask for signs, and Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified, unto Jews a stumblingblock, and unto Gentiles foolishness; but unto them that are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For behold your calling, brethren, that not many wise after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: but God chose the foolish things of the world, that he might put to shame them that are wise; and God chose the weak things of the world, that he might put to shame the things that are strong; and the base things of the world, and the things that are despised, did God choose, yea and the things that are not, that he might bring to nought the things that are: that no flesh should glory before God" (1 Cor 1:18-29).

A Model Of Christianity

"Paul, and Silvanus, and Timothy, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; remembering without ceasing your work of faith and labor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father; knowing, brethren beloved of God, your election, how that our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance; even as ye know what manner of men we showed ourselves toward you for your sake. And ye became imitators of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit; so that ye became an ensample to all that believe in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you hath sounded forth the word of the Lord, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith to God-ward is gone forth; so that we need not to speak anything. For they themselves report concerning us what manner of entering in we had unto you; and how ye turned unto God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, who delivereth us from the wrath to come" (1 Thes 1:1-10).

Paul saw through time and distance the needs of brethren. He took the time to mention them in his prayers. Their faith and labors manifested how grace had affected their lives. Because of God's unmerited favor these faithful ones sought to be employed in the Kingdom of Heaven (Eph 2:8-10). The congregation among the Thessalonians toiled [which resulted in weariness]. They afforded the time and energy needed to see that Christ was proclaimed in word and deed (Col 3:17). The cause to which these saints had been called collectively drew them into a labor of love. There was no distraction that disturbed their will to press on toward the goal of the high calling in Christ Jesus (Phil 3:13-16). They painstakingly rendered service while enduring many trials, being fortified with an undying affection for Christ and His church. Patiently pressing forward that they might show forth the excellencies of the triumph in Christ and their deliverance from sin. Such faith enabled them to demonstrate their love for God the Father.

Their election assured them that they were the children of God (2 Cor 6:14-7:1). They loved their brethren with the love of the Lord (Jn 13:31-35). With the years multiplying they, with patience and longsuffering, sought to help in whatsoever means possible (Gal 6:1-11). The gospel came to them and they found it pleasing to serve Christ because of the unmerited favor they had received (Eph 1:1-10). Paul was used as an example of the faithful Christian. Flawlessly Paul pressed on in the face of many daunting trials and tribulations. Their conduct was directed by guiding principles of hope and trust. In a good sense they became like the apostle Paul. It was not a momentary "imitation" but a lifelong service coupled with profound joy. Paul commended them for becoming examples to those in Macedonian and Achaia. Their faith in God was known in such a manner that Paul did not have to rehearse to them the pride he had in their lives. They served the Lord and waited for Jesus Christ to return, being models of Christian faith and fidelity.

Don Hatch

Family News:

News at Belt Line.

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

April 3, 2011

Front foyer: Nancy Pond & Roberta Price

Back foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

April 10, 2011

Front foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

Sermon Titles

April 3, 2011

a.m: "Small Things"

Scripture: Matt. 10:40-42

p.m: "Little Children"

Scripture: Mark 10:13-16

April 10, 2011

a.m: "No Case"

Scripture: Romans 8:31-39

p.m: "All She Had"

Scripture: Mark 12:41-44

Contribution Counters

Mike Batot & Stan Selby

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'

GATHERING/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.

Chris and Abby Mathews were recently married and both are in the U.S. Air Force. Chris and family have been long time members at Belt Line and we all

rejoice with them in this union. To share in their joy if you would like to contribute to a "Wedding gift of money", please see Beverly McKey or Joann Hatch by April 3rd.

LADIES

• Ilene Ashworth will be teaching the **Ladies Class** on March 29th. The lesson will be "The Parables of the Talents".

Teens

• **Darrell Allen** announced that there will be a Teen Work Day on April 16th. Please see Darrell or John if you have a special project for these young people.

LADIES – APRIL 30TH!

Our 10th ½ **Day** is quickly approaching. Be sure to plan, pray and participate. If you would like to help with the "gift bags" please let Joann know by March 30th.

Vacation Bible School

There will be a meeting of teachers, helpers and leaders for Vacation Bible School in the Auditorium Sunday April 3rd at 4:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School will be on June 20-22. The theme this year will be "**The Christian Armor**". If anyone else would like to help with Vacation Bible School you are welcome to attend this meeting.

NEWS OF THE SICK

• **Marcella Porter**, Sister-in-law, Lillian Porter is at home recovering from knee replacement surgery.

• **Jean Kelly** is home and doing better.

• **Fauna Garrett**, is now back at Ashford Hall. Your prayers are appreciated & she loves to get cards & visits.

• **The Wolfe's** daughter, Cindy Mahan had back surgery in Searcy, Ar. She is presently at home recovering.

• **Carol Townsend** is having problems with her leg & back.

• **Joann Hatch** is having a pacemaker put in on April 5th.

• **Johnetta Crane**, former member is suffering from pneumonia following treatment for cancer.

• **Crystal Vaughan** will be entering Baylor Hospital this week. Please remember her in prayer.

SYMPATHY

• **Maxine Prude's**, sister Fleeta Spencer, passed away at age 100 on Thursday. Funeral will be in Ennis on Thursday, March 31st.

• **Leo Townsend's**, sister Gladys Wood, passed away in Houston. Her funeral will be in Abilene on Tuesday, March 29th at 11:30 a.m.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Jean Kelly, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson.

BEAR MINISTRY

Sewers will be able to pick up their bears in the Bear room on Sunday, April 3rd. They will need to be turned in by April 17th.

Remember to turn in your **Survey Sheet** to the Church Office, as soon as possible.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 4-3-11

Be sure and mark your calendar –

·**Ladies' Class** April 5th –Janet Harvey will be our guest speaker. The class will meet at 11:00 a.m. with a luncheon following the lesson.

·**Ladies 10th Annual ½ day** is coming soon-Sat. April 30th-pray-plan-participate

·**Vacation Bible School** – June 20-22

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY*

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

·Leo Townsend
·Nathan Allen
·Mike Batot
·James Gilliam
·Brandon Howard
·Denzel Myers

Rear Table

· Bobby England
·Brent Howard
·Roy Martin
·Derrol Allen

4/3/11

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

· Richard Renfro
· Mike Batot
· Marvin Brown

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Jerry Baker
Matt. 10:40-42

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· Darrell Allen
· Jerry Baker

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Kenny Mayer
Mark 10:13-16

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Garl Latham

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

·Glen Kelly
·John Mayer

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

·Darrell Allen

A.M. SONG LEADER

Darrell Allen

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	94	83	81	100
A.M. Worship	142	152	143	150
P.M. Worship	74	75	73	75
Wed. Class	83	92	74	75
Ladies Bible Class	23	no class	21	25
Contribution	\$5016	\$4536	\$5114	\$5553

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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 Capetown South Africa

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
PAID
AT IRVING, TEXAS**

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

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