

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

February 18, 2014
Volume 6 Number 7

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(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

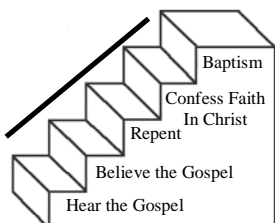
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Thou Shalt Not Steal

Don Hatch

Man was created in the image of God. God has absolute *dominion* over heaven and earth. His power is without limits. Man, created in the image of God was given dominion over certain aspects of the world. Man was created to exercise dominion under God and was appointed as official administrative deputy over the earth. As a result of the fall man's dominion became perverted. He does not exercise dominion under God. Man now desires to be as God. The temptation of Satan was to have every man become his own god, deciding what will be constituted as right or wrong. The bitter consequences of mankind's perverted urge have made many vicious, seeking to alter individual rights of fellow man. Such realizations are in all sections of life. Power is not the goal God had in mind.

The tumultuous [confused] reign of those who are strong lead to anarchy. A radical deformation of power leads to demands without God-ordained goals of obedience. Every man is summoned to prepare himself to meet the Lord. Such actions do not disappear when ignored. Trifling with the purpose of God is masked with hypocritical actions. Ownership is a central aspect of dominion. Ownership should be in the hands of family and not the state. The state does not own or control property. The state should be the protector of rights. It should be under the control of God as supreme. When God is removed there is a drift to totalitarianism.

The eighth commandment declares that “*man shalt not steal*”. Theft is taking another's property by coercion, fraud, or without his consent. Harming property, destroying its value is theft. Thief refers to one who steals goods and property by stealth. Being a part of a group who swindles victims, but does not personally rob is a thief. Theft can be accomplished by indirect and legal mean [i.e. passing a law as the means of taking from another, stealing from the rich, poor or middle-class for the benefit of a certain group]. To damage a person's property, lessen its value is wrong. In many states restoration is demanded. Land schemes are commonplace.

Fraud is clearly theft. Purchase of an item that is misrepresented is fraud on the part of the seller. The legal terms of the Bible point to

stealing with a purpose to defraud another is theft. Corrupt people beget a corrupt state, which cannot enforce the best laws because of corruption. Bribery is stealing. Necessity does not justify theft. Necessity cannot supplant God's law. Giving man priority over God's law invalidates God.

Theft is a violation of God's fundamental order.

Theft is an offense against another person and God. God calls for respect of life, marriage, personal prosperity and things which are titled to another because His law-order takes priority over all needs great or small. Neither the nature of our neighbor's moral fiber, which may be good or bad, or personal need, can justify theft. “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing that is good, that he may have whereof to give to him that hath need” (Eph 4:28). Clearly stealing and employment are opposed to each other. Equally clear is an obligation of all which work to be self-supporting and consider charity for those in need (Acts 2:43-47; 6:1-10; Jas 1:27). Theft is a short-cut to prosperity when seeking to by-pass work as a means to wealth or power. Scripturally wealth can be acquired by man at work, money at work, inheritance or gift. Evil designs will oppose the acquisition of personal property under the law-order of God. It is easy to document the evil of rich and poor, capitalism or communism and any other means of acquiring prosperity or taking it away. Theft is wrong under any type of government.

Liability is serious when a bystander fails to render aid (Lk 10:25-31). The humanists progressively developed laws which absolve legal obligation to be a *Good Samaritan*. Few laws are more misunderstood than the usury law [charge of interest on money lent]. Money-lenders have been under a cloud, as a class of people, because of lingering misuse. Yet, when individuals mortgage their future for the gratification of immediate desires it is a brazen evil and it is little wonder that worldly individuals do take advantage of them. No man has the right to risk his life, liberty or borrow on those things which are irreplaceable, even if someone is willing to make a loan. There is a clear law of responsibility.

Removing of landmarks is theft. Fraudulently taking advantage of laborers is theft. Changing measurements is theft. Unlawful uses of power are theft. Injustice by judges can result in theft. Prejudice can steal the good name of another. Backbiting is theft. Stealing the freedom of another is theft. Denying rights of strangers, widows and orphans is theft. Bad checks are theft. False advertising and adulteration of food is theft. An important point is the respect for law is for everyone. “Thou shalt not steal”!

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

The Bible says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is a way of death" (Prov. 14:12). Our feelings are not a safe guide, but only the Bible is.

'For what is a man profited, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Matt. 16:26). "and fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both the soul and body in hell' (Matt. 10:28). In these passages Jesus is saying that the soul is worth more than anything, yes, everything in the world.

What is a soul? Man is a threefold being which is made up of the inner and outer man. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole SPIRIT and SOUL and BODY be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Thes. 5:23). 'For which cause we faint not; but though our out-ward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day' (2 Cor. 4:16). We have a physical body of flesh, a soul or principle of the physical life of the body, and a spirit or non-material part of man that is made in the image of God. The inner man is composed of soul and spirit. These words are at times used interchangeably referring both to the part that makes man a living being and to the seat of feelings, thoughts, desires and affections.

What makes the soul such a priceless thing? The soul or spirit is divine in origin (Zech. 12:1). God is the Father of our spirit (Heb. 12:9). At death the soul or spirit returns to God who gave it (EccI. 12:7). The soul was redeemed by the blood of Christ. 'For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ...' (I Pet. 1:18-19). What a price! It is the soul or spirit that is converted and not the body (I Pet. 1:22).

The soul is eternal in duration. Though dead for centuries, Moses appeared very much alive with Christ on the mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-9). Though they had died, the rich man and Lazarus were alive in the other world (Lk. 16:19-31). The soul of man defies comparison and surpasses all values. The loss of the soul means we will experience two losses. One, is the loss of the blessedness of this life (I Tim. 4:8; John 10:10), two, the loss of heaven with all of its incomparable joy and beauty. The loss of the soul is an unqualified one. Its loss cannot be compensated for or amended and is irreparable and unrecalable. **WHAT IS THE VALUE OF YOUR SOUL?** Where will our spirit (individually) spend eternity? No one else can do it for us. We must be accountable for our own destiny!

Have a great week serving God! Hope to see each of you at the place of assembly each time the saints gather. Keep all of our sick & shut-in in your prayers!

Dean Webb

"And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders, and the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again...And he called unto him the multitude with his disciples, and said unto them, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever would save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's shall save it..." (Mk 8:31-38).

Intercessory Prayers

Intercessory prayers are found sprinkled throughout the Bible. They demonstrate the fervor individuals had for others. Needs were varied and prayers were uttered on their behalf that God in His providence would intervene and bless with those things needful, as well as forgiveness of their sins.

Noah had survived the great worldwide flood. The scriptures indicate that he prayed for his family (Gen 8:20-22). God pledged never to bring a worldwide flood upon the earth again and that all the seasons, rain, cold, heat, summer, spring and winter would continue along with day and night. Abraham was a man of prayer. He prayed for Ishmael (Gen 17:18) and Abimelech (Gen 20:17). Jacob prayed for his sons (Gen 48:8-22). In his final prayer for these sons he identified many of their needs and plead for blessing to be forthcoming from God (49:28-33). The awareness of others' plights and needs were vividly manifested in the unique prayers of the Patriarchs.

Moses engages in a number of intercessory prayers and takes up the spirit of consideration for others. He lifts the religious fervor for others to new heights and character. Any selfishness in religious life was removed. He manifested his desire to see that Israel would obtain the blessings of God. These blessings were on a higher and wider plain for nationhood to be reached. Moses' prayed for the removal of plagues (Ex 15:25-30), water to be drinkable at Rephidim (Ex 17:4), victory over Amalek (Ex 17:8-16), for the people after the golden calf was destroyed (Ex 32:11-33:12), healing of Miriam's leprosy and the return of the spies ((Num 14:13-19). He gave his final blessing in a prayer (Deut 33:1-29).

The extensive uses of intercessory prayers are striking illustrations of the spiritual growth of the people of God. The leaders passed on this means of addressing God to the people and zeal for patriotism grew with a regard for those of like precious faith. Their vivid and passionate utterances were full of divine enthusiasm and human affection. These prayers arose from devout souls and deep emotional ties.

The New Testament is filled with prayers which reflect the Lord's. At the outset of Christ's teachings He stresses prayer in His own intercessory prayers. He manifested that prayers can be for those who despitefully use us by making the scope of prayers intercessory (Mat 5:44). Christ's prayers opened an avenue to the Father exhibiting an altruistic spirit. Forgiveness of others and praying on their behalf was a striking type of intercessory prayer (Mat 6:5-15). Good things sought from the Father are admirable qualities seen in His prayers. During healing His prayers manifest an intercessory venue. When the Lord prayed for Peter He interceded for his soul's wellbeing (Lk 22:31). The promised answer of such prayers is a sublime blessing (Jn 16:26).

Intercessory prayers were mainstays in the church. The apostles engaged in such prayers (1 Tim 2:1-5). Stephen prayed for his murderers (Acts 8:24), Peter when at Joppa for praying for Tabatha (Acts 9:40), Barnabas and Paul prayed for elders (Acts 14:23), prayers were uttered for Paul and Silas (Acts 15:40), Paul prayed with the church (Acts 20:36). Prayers offered on behalf of others are a distinctive way to intercede, asking God to bless according to His will, granting to those mentioned such as is needful. Intercession should be natural to Christians.

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

February 23, 2014

Front foyer: Donna Davis & Fay Yeldell

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

March 2, 2014

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Nancy Pond & Myrtle Wade

Sermon Titles

February 23, 2014

a.m: "Gethsemane"

Scripture: Matthew 26:36-46

p.m: "The Song Of Moses"

Scripture: Exodus 15:1-5

March 2, 2014

a.m: "He Staggered Not"

Scripture: Genesis 22:1-8

p.m: "Character Is Molded"

Scripture: 2 King 4:17-25

Contribution Counters For February

Mike Batot & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For February

Brenda Bryant

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate booklets. Please come help us and enjoy the Christian fellowship.

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter,
Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince,
*Tom Head, Ronnie Vaughn,
Bill Matthews

Homebound Members:

Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Roy
& Helen Thomas, Mary Walker,
Marietta Houser, Gearldean
Jones

Recovering at Home:

. **Elizabeth Garrison** had a MRI done on her knee last Thursday.

. **Mary Elaina Vaughan** is very sick. She has a high temperature that goes up and down. She will be going to the doctor on Monday.

There are many others who are suffering with various illnesses. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

Nursing Home:

Billie Myers – Northgate Plaza
Fauna Garrett – Emerall Hills
Rehab Center
Dorothy Smith – Avalon
Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Hospital: none at the present time

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews –
Abigail has been assigned to Korea for a month.

Other Requests:

Marcella Porter had some tests run last week and she has requested your prayers.

LADIES

The Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, **February 18th** at 10

a.m. in the annex. The lesson will be "**Sackcloth Garments**".

Ladies Day at Briar Church of Christ in Azle on **March 1st** at 10 a.m. with lunch to follow. Topic is "**Ingredients For a Christian Woman's Life**". RSVP by February 23rd at 817-269-2814 or 817-771-7427. Address is: 109 W.N. Woody Road in Azle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

39'ers Breakfast will be held on Saturday, **March 1st** at **8 a.m.** in the Annex. Our teens are hosting the breakfast. There are sign-up sheets in the front foyer so the teens will know how much food to prepare.

BRIDAL SHOWER

There will be a come and go bridal shower for **Jessica Alonzo** on Saturday March 15th from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p. m. This will be at Kassie Price's home at 419 Nottingham. Jessica is registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond. If you would like to contribute to a group gift please contact Sandy Hall.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Julio and Ana Milagro Ibarra have decided to place membership with a Spanish speaking congregation. They will be missed here at Belt Line.

TEACHERS

The new quarter will begin on Sunday, **March 2nd** and Wednesday night, **March 5th**. If you need any supplies or help please let Don Hatch know.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**2/25/14 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.****FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S**

Scott Price – 2/6
 Robert Ruckman – 2/11
 Joy Webb – 2/12
 Cathy Taylor – 2/12
 Clifford Yeldell – 2/14
 Tony Pierce* – 2/14
 Alex Mayer – 2/16
 Mary Curtis – 2/17
 Carol Partridge – 2/28

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Brandon & Stephanie Howard – 2/28

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

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		2/23/14	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
·Richard Renfro	·Bobby England		· Clifford Yeldell
·Mike Batot	·Ethan Howard		· Henry Seidmeyer
·Brandon Howard	·Brent Howard		
·Glen Kelly	·Kenny Mayer		
·Derrol Allen			
·Nathan Allen			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Thomas Rathbun			· Scot Allen
· Bill Paschall			Matthew 26:36-46
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
· Bill Paschall			· Don Herriage
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			· Jerry McKey
· Darrell Allen			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Nathan Allen
			Exodus 15:1-5
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Jerry Baker

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	71	79	70	100
A.M. Worship	111	124	122	150
P.M. Worship	75	63	68	80
Wed. Class	74	69	64	85
Contribution	\$5007	\$5323	\$5041	\$5331

MISSIONS

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

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