

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

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Volume 8 Number 38

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

Web site:
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.... 7:00 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

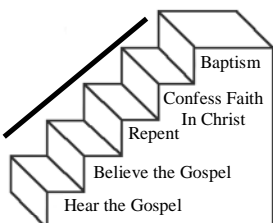
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Irony-Exact Opposites

Don Hatch

Those looking at Christianity today come into possession of a vast number of literary works produced to identify the Christian System. Much of this literature has proved helpful while others range from harmless vagaries to pernicious lies. The possession of this body of literature can constitute a real peril. The danger is substituting the text for the explanation. Some read what one man says, then another rather than taking the time to discover the meaning of the text through personal study. **Irony!**

After the flood God promised not to send a worldwide flood again. But humans built a tower, to reach up to heaven and to make themselves a name. In spite of the gigantic building it was so little that God came down from heaven to see it (Gen 11:5). The situation is described in ironic terms. When Nathan encountered David after his sins of adultery with Bathsheba and murder of her husband he told him a story, unknowingly David condemned himself. **Irony**

One handicap students of the Bible encounter is that those who heard the gospel preached heard in the Greek language and the nuances are frequently missed by English readers. The thoughts of language are never completely translated and it may be necessary to seek shades of meaning in the Greek. Nevertheless there are a number of good translations produced in English which will minimize this handicap. Certainly if those in the 1st century understood so can we of the 21st century know the substance of the good news! **Irony!**

Living remote to the 1st century causes some to despair that the allusions and expressions cannot be comprehended. There are ways and means to bridge this gap by looking at the customs of the 1st century. This difficulty can be overcome with a little assistance. The Bible has a wonderful key to self-interpretation. The key lies in the literary structure of the book. The book has a goal which anyone can ascertain. It is divided into units. The student can study toward a definite objective. The Bible is a straight forward presentation. The reader must be prepared to think for one's self. The analysis of the Bible's components gives rise to applications which lead to greater

knowledge and usefulness. **Irony!**

There was in the 1st century a way to understand the gospel, therefore there must be a logical and eclectic way to gain a biblical vocabulary today. Look for formal statements made by the biblical writers like "Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name" (Jn 20:30,31). This reveals what the writer had in mind as he wrote the book. The Bible was written to be believed. It is an imperative, definitive and effective gospel. **Irony!**

The Bible's extensive knowledge can be discovered by those who are willing to put in the time. **Irony!**

The portrayal of human struggle in the Scriptures demonstrates the deep tragedy each might face. The worst of human passions, behaviors, sufferings and failures are set forth. Envy, materialism, hatred, spite, lust, deceit, unfaithfulness, thanklessness, foolishness, cruelty, duplicity, malice and every other evil cause or quality is illustrated in this drama of real life. Conversely magnanimity, generosity, kindheartedness, wholesomeness, sincerity, genuineness, and self-sacrifice are found. Apart from divine intervention life would end in sadness and disappointments. Sometimes the more humanity struggles against evil the deeper it becomes enmeshed. Peter vowed he would not forsake the Lord but lay down his life (Jn 13:37). Ironically he did just the opposite. **Irony!**

In the life of Jesus Christ irony is abundant. Jesus was virtuous, suffered humiliation; regal, died in disrepute; powerful, died in weakness. His claims are contrasted with His end. He claimed to be the water of life and said "I thirst". He claimed to be the resurrection of life and died sooner than most victims of crucifixion. He claimed to be the truth and was crucified as an imposter. The purest life the world has ever known became the victim of evil committed by others. Tragedy was in reality a triumph. He was life over death, love over hate, light over darkness and spirit over flesh. The true irony is not the crucifixion but the resurrection. (Unbelief did its worst at the cross and was halted by the resurrection.) The divine Word was triumphant being held up against the backdrop of the most sordid realities of life. Undergoing the vilest that life could offer He became the overcomer. Dreams by which men delude themselves are shattered by a cruel world. Jesus gives a vision by which one can live and overcome the world. We can rise to magnificent faith or lapse into indifference. Ironically the only faithful place this story of faith is told is in the Bible. **How ironic!**

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

This Saturday was an exciting day for Don Hatch, Jerry McKey, Willie Gley, Alvin Jennings, Gil Holt and me at the 16th Annual Reporting and Fundraising Day for the White Rock Fund (WRF). The meeting place was at the Wyndham Hotel in North Dallas. WRF is a group of Christians who pool their financial resources in order to support 65 preachers throughout 23 countries. I was blessed to be one of the speakers and of course I spoke on the work of Mission Printing and its value to the brotherhood. David Tarbet, our missionary to the Northeast U.S. and Director of WRF was the coordinator of the six presentations. There were 92 in attendance and almost \$80,000 donated with a very large amount of money pledged for November. We heard from missionaries representing Nepal, Ethiopia, France, Nigeria, Connecticut State, and Mission Printing. WRF has given \$20,000 grants to the Belt Line Church each year from 2011 through 2016. These funds are specifically given to pay for two Mission Printing containers shipments each year to transport the Mission Printing material to foreign lands. We pray that WRF will be able to continue these grants for many years to come. It is a great blessing to Mission Printing for two of its four annual container shipments to be paid for each year.

Our Evening Gospel Meetings got off to a great start with Jeff Jenkins tonight. He brought a stirring sermon on "How Great is God". Please attend the remaining nights through Wednesday. He will continue the theme of Our Great God. The meeting time is 7 PM each night. Pray for the meeting and bring your friends and family.

[2 Samuel 7:22](#)

"Therefore you are **great**, O Lord **God**. For *there is* none like you, nor *is there any* **God** besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears".

--Richard Renfro

Psalm 119

Psalm 119 is called the **Alphabetical Psalm**. As the longest Psalm and the most perfect of its kind gives the Hebrew Alphabet of twenty two letters as a means to recall verses from one's memory. The subject is God's law and sanctification of the soul of man. God's law supports, impacts happiness, peace of mind, and teaches obedience. This Psalm sets forth the excellence of the law and the effects upon those who obey it. It uses a variety of expressions to manifest God as abundantly kind, forgiving, merciful, slow to anger, gracious and loving (Ex 34:6; Psm103). With one hundred seventy six verses the illustrations are markedly clear and free from repetition. There are perhaps no verses exactly like this anywhere else in Scripture. The shades and contrasts are designed to make the reader want to reread the law, testimonies and statutes of God. These verses time honored descriptions or references to God's law.

The writer, David, meditated on God's law day and night (Psm 1). This man, of maturity, gives the results of his experience, being influenced by God's law under various circumstances and expresses the effect it had upon others. It was not as commonly used in public worship as the shorter Psalms. Yet its storehouse of precious truths was intended for memorization by youths to learn the alphabet and store it as a guide along life's journey. Youth could not have a better treasure than this Psalm. To keep a youth from turning away from the religion of his father was premeditated into this Psalm. The lessons learned would be applicable to temptation, allurements, enticement, idolatry, sensual, inordinate gratifications or feelings of pressure from within or without the Jewish community. This Psalm was applicable to the people of God at all times and was to strengthen the mind, heart and soul (Deut 6:1-5). Youth, trials, duty, meditation, public and private actions are seen in this Psalm.

The Psalmist said, "**I am a stranger in the earth**" (vs. 19). As a wayfarer, sojourner and pilgrim, whose permanent home was not of this world, he set his hope on eternity with God (Heb 11:3). He abode among mankind and looked for ways and means to know God's law more perfectly by practice and meditation. His hope was a commitment to a constant fellowship with his God. This Psalm removed the feelings of isolation and heartache of a stranger.

The Psalmist says, "...**for I am become like a bottle of smoke**; yet I do not forget thy statutes" (vs.83). This metaphor is of a container (wineskin or vase) which hang where there was little escape from defilement. Dark, dingy and corruptive forces bring discomfort, distress and sorrow. In these conditions the "light of God's word" fills a being with hope and confidence in the ultimate victory over self, sin and circumstances beyond one's control. One finds comfort in the hope built into God's word and with an intense longing awaits help in danger. The true believer expresses, "God is greater than all my fears". Patience and strength of faith are preserving elements and an evidence that in nothing affrighted us by the adversaries (Phil 1:28). Patient endurance always prevails.

The Psalmist says, "I am afflicted very much, quicken me, O Lord, according to thy word" (vs. 107). With God's word as a lamp to one's feet and light to the path one can pledge an oath to perform and keep righteousness. There is a commitment which cannot be shaken by afflictions.

Don Hatch

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

ASSIGNMENTS FOR OCTOBER

GREETERS:

October 30 – Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England
Back Foyer – Henry Seidmeyer & Myrtle Wade

November 6 – Front Foyer – Dale & Katherine Cox
Back Foyer – Don & Anne Herriage

Communion Preparation: Bill & Linda Matthews

Contribution Counters: Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

SERMONS

October 30 – a.m. “Pious Behavior”
Titus 2:1-8
p.m. “5th Sunday Singing”
TBA

**HAVE YOU INVITED
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP
THIS WEEK?**

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don & Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton, Deidra Sutton, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Glen Kelly, Mike Garrison, Lauren Roses, Nellie Melvin, Alice Worthy, Carol Swinney

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

Nursing Homes: Elsie Nanny – Avante Frances Tipton – Arlington Rehab
Max Melton – Northgate Plaza

Military: Chris & Abigail Mathews

EVENTS

MISSION PRINTING – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS – Will meet on Tuesday, October 25th at 10 a.m. in the Annex. The Topic will be “**Jesus: His Birth**”.

Ladies – please invite your friends and neighbors to attend each Tuesday morning with you.

Our 5th Sunday Singing will be on **October 30th**. There is a sheet in the front foyer for you to list the songs that you would like to sing at that time.

Grocery bags are available in both foyers for **Christ’s Haven**. There are lists attached to each for your convenience. The bags will be picked up on Tuesday **November 1st**.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Recovering at Home:

Lauren Roses is still having serious health problems. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Alice Worthy is not doing well and needs our prayers. **Sissy Allen** has been diagnosed with cancer in her right lung. She also needs our prayers.

Danny Estes is having some health issues and has requested prayers on his behalf.

Kent Conner is now home from the hospital and was able to be at services on Sunday.

Upcoming Procedures:

Don Hatch will be having his 2nd Cataract surgery done on October 27th.

We received **Thank You Notes** from **Debbie Gomez** and **Kent Conner** - they are on the bulletin board. We also received a note to the **Ladies Class** from **Tammy Asbill**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/6/16 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Anne Herriage – 10/5
 Geardean Jones – 10/8
 Annette Kaiser – 10/10
 Walt LaHaye – 10/11
 Mary Bowen – 10/12
 Carolyn Renfro – 10/14
 Janie Walker – 10/19
 Marinell Zaun – 10/20
 Tori Morris – 10/21
 Richard Renfro – 10/22
 Jan Smithson – 10/22
 Barbara Hatcher – 10/24
 Letitia Beverly – 10/26
 Bobby England – 10/30
 Sandy Hall – 10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Bobby & Brenda England – 10/9
 Robert & Betty Ruckman – 10/10
 Richard & Carolyn Renfro – 10/15
 Darrell & Melissa Allen – 10/24

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:
 (469) 216-7580*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)

Front Table

Richard Renfro
 Dean Webb
 Jerry McKey
 Glen Kelly
 John Mayer
 Darrell Allen

Rear Table

Bobby England
 Robert Taylor
 Xavier Kaiser
 Curtis Vaughan

10/30/16

SUNDAY PRAYERS

A.M. – Richard Renfro
 Jerry McKey
 Mike Garrison
 P.M. – John Mayer
 Alex Mayer

SCRIPTURE READING

A.M. – Dale Cox
 Titus 2:1-8
 P.M. – Glen Kelly
 TBA

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

Bill Matthews
 Curtis Vaughan

SONG LEADERS

A.M. – Darrell Allen
 P.M. – Jerry Baker

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

Thomas Rathbun

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	56	51	62	100
A.M. Worship	105	90	100	150
P.M. Worship	71	100	72	80
Wed. Class	56	60	60	85
Contribution	\$5048	\$4428	\$5373	\$5170

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas
 The Truth In Love – Hurst, Texas
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 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 – Bedford, Texas
 Carlos Tario, Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Brayden Shelley
 Southwest School of Preaching – Austin, Texas – Mike Batot

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

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 AT IRVING, TEXAS**