

**August 30, 2010**

**SERMONS FOR SUNDAY**

**September 5, 2010**

a.m. *"The Gift of a Son"*

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6, 7

p.m. *Report from Malaysia*

**Trust In God**

Don Hatch

**God has always required faith** in Him. This faith which is blessed by God is one which obeys. The involvement of mind, heart and soul anticipates that faith is more than an intellectual exercise. It must be a faith that submits to the evidence God is and that He will reward those who diligently seek Him (Heb 11:6). Trust in God includes submission to Him. Faith in its basic nature has not changed from the time of creation. New Testament Christians have a fuller revelation from God than did Adam and specific requirements are different, but faith is still required. If the nature of faith changed the Old Testament could not be used to illustrate faithful obedience (Rom 15:1-5; 1 Cor 10:1-13).

**The book of Hebrews** gives many illustrations of faithfulness. It warns the faithful not to shrink back into perdition by casting off the boldness that manifests itself while enduring the conflicts which surround them (Heb 10:32-39). The righteous live by faith unto the saving of their souls. The various worthies who lived under the Old Testament dispensation characterize the boldness of faith. They were relentless in demonstrating what faith can accomplish. Faith understands God will work all things out in the present and give hope for the future (Rom 4:17-25; 5:1-11). The unseen actions of God are His providential blessings which, in retrospect, the faithful can see Him working all things together for good to those who love Him (Rom 8:28). Therefore, there is a hope [desire and expectation] that God will continue His active involvement in the life of the faithful. Christians give confidence to the world that whatsoever has been promised will be fulfilled. Faith has confidence in the truth of salvation. Faith leads the faithful to worship God in spirit and truth (Jn 4:23). Faith leads the faithful to imitate God and live holy lives (1 Pet 1:13-17). Faith walks with God (Heb 11:5). Faith knows that the soul which was dead in sin is alive in Christ because of the mercy and grace of God (Eph 2:1-10). This could not have been done unless the faithful agreed to do the will of God. Faith not only acts, but it acts according to God's divine scheme of redemption and specification of the New Testament. Faith heeds God's warning to do all things according to the pattern found in the New Testament (Heb 8:1-13). Faith does not have to see the end of a matter in order to obey (Heb 11:8). As a pilgrim the Christian abstains from fleshly lust which war against the soul, adhering to the behavior which will glorify God (1 Pet 1:11, 12).

**Faith enables Christians** to lift up their eyes. From earth they see heaven's destiny (Heb 11:13-16). Faith acts on God's word when it conflicts with the world (1 Jn 2:15-17). Faith

believes that God will raise the faithful in the last day to be with Him in heaven (Jn 14:1-5; 1 Thes 4:13-18). Faith leads Christians to obey God rather than man (Acts 3:19). Faith enables Christians to make choices concerning what to give up, the consequences of the choice and blessings which follow good choices (Heb 24-27). There is a recompense of reward for making the correct choice. Faithfulness to God requires serving in the face of overwhelming obstacles (Josh 24:14, 15; Heb 12:1-4). Witnesses are those who saw and looked to Jesus as the author and perfecter of salvation and were reminded that they had not resisted unto blood. Faith marches forward in the face of difficulties, doing what it can, and leaving the remainder to God. God will provide. Faith comprehends that it does not bring the final outcome through any clout of its own. It is the power of God which accomplishes the end result. Faith meets the conditions and requirements wherein God can manifest His power.

**Abraham was called** the “father of the faithful”, illustrating the uniqueness of faith (Rom 4:16). Abraham’s faith was reckoned unto him for righteousness (Rom 4:3, 10). From the time he was called from Ur of the Chaldea unto his final days, Abraham walked by faith. God promised him a child. The delay in Isaac’s birth manifests that God has His own timetable for all things. God has an eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus (Eph 3:1-13). Christians can have boldness and access in confidence, through faith, in Christ. God is “...able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations for ever and ever. Amen” (Eph 3:20, 21). Abraham grew in faith, as we should. Knowing that there will be those who wrest the truth we are warned not to be carried away by error (2 Pet 3:14-18). Growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ gives faith the ability to escape the corruption that is in the world through lust (2 Pet 1:1-11).

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

Brethren, because of you and your dedication to God, the Belt Line Road family is a preferred congregation. Good teaching, good preaching and friendliness unequalled by most congregations in the Brotherhood. We should proudly invite one & all to become a member of the Belt Line Road Family.

The Bible teaches us a lot about works! The following is involved in man's salvation: (1) God's grace-the blessing offered, (2) God's law-instructions given as to what man must do to receive the blessing, (3) man's faith-his acceptance of God's law, (4) man's obedience to God's instructions, and (5) Man's reception to God's blessing.

The Bible says we are saved by works (James 2:24), and it also says we are not saved by works (Eph. 2:8-9). Therefore, there are two different type works described in the Bible. There are the works of merit in which one might glory or boast, works of law keeping in order to earn or merit salvation (Rom.4:4-6, 3:27, 11:6). This type of kind or work is EXCLUDED from salvation. Then there are also the works (obedience) of man that comply with the conditions of God's will (Acts 2:40, Heb. 5:8-9, Matt. 7:21, James 2:24). This type or kind of work is INCLUDED in salvation. The works which are excluded from salvation are works of merit (Eph. 2:8-9), works of human devising (Rom. 10:3). The works which are included in salvation are obedience of man (Rom. 1:5, Gal. 5:6, James 2:24, Acts 10:35). If all works related to salvation

are excluded, as some teach, then faith itself would be excluded, for faith is a work which man must do (John 6:28-29). The fallacy of the religious world comes from confusing meritorious works with the works of faith. The kind of faith that avails before God has always been the live, active, working obedient faith. This is the kind of faith which saved Abraham (Rom. 4, James 2). No one has ever received any blessing which God offered until his faith leads him to obey the instructions given in God's word. Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to all them that OBEY him (Heb. 5:8-9). Only those in Christ have access to all spiritual blessings.

Belt Line is truly undenominational, truly committed to keeping God's word with good teaching, good preaching and a friendly welcome. This should bring us all together at each appointed time. School is back in session; we should also be attending regardless of the season. Our prayers are that all who can be in the number will be there!

Pray for our sick & shut-ins! Have a great week serving God!

~ Dean Webb

### EVERLASTING COVENANT

“Now the God of peace, who brought again from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep with the blood of an eternal covenant, even our Lord Jesus, make you perfect in every good thing to do his will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. But I exhort you, brethren, bear with the word of exhortation, for I have written unto you in few words. Know ye that our brother Timothy hath been set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you. Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you. Grace be with you all. Amen” (Heb 13:20-25).

**The peace of God** comes to the Christian through Christ (Isa 9:6). The resurrection of Jesus is ascribed to the Father (Rom 6:1-11). It was a public display to the world that Jesus was the promised Messiah (Rom 1:1-5). Following Golgotha Jesus was in the grave for three days. On the first day of the week [Sunday] God raised Him. Jesus was a sin offering and became the Mediator following His ascension (1 Tim 2:1-7). As the good Shepherd Jesus enjoins obedience to His sheep (1 Pet 5:4; Jn 10:1-11). By virtue of Jesus' blood an everlasting covenant was established. The Hebrew writer gives the readers a hope of being perfected in the sight of God because of Jesus. God is spirit (Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17). God is light (1 Jn 1:5). God is love (1 Jn 3:1-5). God lives in glory (Jn 17; Acts 7:2). God grants peace and consolation (Rom 15:1-6). God comforts His people (2 Cor 1:1-11). God gives hope (Rom 5:1-11). However, the greatest gift of all is Jesus Christ. Those who trust in God will have perfect peace (Rom 15:33; 16:20; Phil 4:9; 2 Thess 3:16). The Christian needs inner peace. In the midst of trials, persecution and heartaches the Christian can have true peace of heart, soul, mind and spirit. God provides such a peace by the sacrifice of Christ on Calvary (Isa 26:3; Col 3:15; Jn 14:27; 16:33). Redemption underscores the nature of the everlasting covenant.

**With the fall of Adam and Eve** the image of God within man was marred. Mankind forfeited favor with God. To have fellowship with God mankind needed to be reconciled (2 Cor 5:18-20).

Being guilty of sin before God must be changed and on the basis of this Jesus Christ gave His blood as a ransom. The blood of Jesus purchased the church (Acts 20:28). Jesus' covenant with mankind results in peace with God. Mankind can now stand before God reconciled because of the resurrection of Jesus. The humanity, deity, death, ascension and glorification of Jesus are referred to frequently in Hebrews. The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead made "...you perfect in every good thing to do his will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in his sight". Nowhere is the omnipotence and sovereignty seen more mightily than in the resurrection of Jesus. Being baptized into Christ is being baptized into His death. Like Christ was raised by God the Christian will be raised in the likeness of His resurrection (Rom 6:1-11). The work of redemption- death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ- is the proof of God's eternal covenant with mankind. God's covenant is in the heart and mind of a Christian. God will be merciful to their iniquities and remember their sins no more (Heb 8:8-13). Don Hatch

**Faith is inextricably joined to trust.** Trust is a charge or duty imposed by faith and is a condition of confidence. Trust is an assured reliance on the character and abilities of the one who promised or makes a covenant. God has been proven to be trustworthy. He is deserving of our trust. "My son, forget not my law; But let thy heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and years of life, and peace, will they add to thee. Let not kindness and truth forsake thee: Bind them about thy neck; Write them upon the tablet of thy heart: So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in Jehovah with all thy heart, and lean not upon thine own understanding: In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he will direct thy paths" (Prov 3:1-5). God is worthy of our trust and faith.

~ Don Hatch

## **GREETER ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Sunday, September 5, 2010**

**Front foyer:** Richard & Carolyn Renfro

**Back foyer:** Robert & Betty Ruckman

### **Sunday, September 12, 2010**

**Front foyer:** JC & Dessie Ross

**Back foyer:** Robert & Cathy Taylor

## Family News:

### MISSION PRINTING

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

### SINGING SESSION

The singing class will resume on **September 12<sup>th</sup>** 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.

### LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

Ladies' class will resume on **September 14<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 with a lesson by Bill Matthews on "All That Glitters Is Not Gold", followed by a luncheon.

### BEAR PROGRAM

Ladies, if you are interested in participating in the Bear Program, please sign the list that can be found in both foyers.

### GUEST SPEAKER

Charlie & Mary DiPalma will be with us this Sunday, 9/5, as Charlie will update us on the happenings in Malaysia on Sunday evening.

### GLEENING FOR CHILDREN

It's time to start bringing your green cans of pocket change for the children of Foster's Home to the building as they will be here in a couple of weeks to pick them up.

### NEW CLASS

Henry Seidmeyer will resume regular Bible study in the main auditorium on Wednesday evenings, this week beginning with 1 Peter 4:1-10.

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Phoebe Latham** made perfect attendance again in her Sunday morning Bible class. Keep it up, Phoebe, we're so proud of you!

### THOSE TO SERVE IN SEPTEMBER

**Lord's table (front):** Purman Cofer, Bill Matthews, John Mayer, Glen Kelly, Brandon Howard, Marvin Brown, Mike Garrison, Dorris Walker

**(back):** JC Ross, Robert Taylor, Derrol Allen, Bill Paschall, Max Melton, Keith Vaughn, Roy Martin, Bobby England

**p.m.** Robert Ruckman, Thomas Rathbun

**Card Pickup: a.m.** Cole & Ethan Howard **p.m.** Scot Allen, Alex Mayer

**Contribution Counters:** Mike Garrison, Darrell Allen

**Communion Preparers:** Bill & Linda Matthews

### WITH SYMPATHY

**Shirley Bryant** (James Gilliam's sister) passed away last week in Ardmore, OK.

### NEWS OF THE SICK

- **Evelyn Armstrong** was able to be in worship yesterday.
- **Billie Beverly** is scheduled for back surgery on 9/14 at Baylor/Irving.
- **BC Fowler** will have surgery on 9/9.
- **Grady Fowler** will have surgery in Plano on 9/17.
- **Hank Henry's** fell & cracked a lower bone in his back, but was able to be in worship yesterday.
- **Geraldean Jones** came through pacemaker surgery well this morning; the plan is to keep her overnight for observation.
- **Tom Head** spent some time in Las Colinas Medical last week for a blood transfusion; he was able to be in worship yesterday.
- **Gail Hieronymus** (Mike Garrison's daughter) has been diagnosed with cancer in a very early stage.

### CONTINUOUS PRAYER CONCERNS:

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Everett Newton, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Faye West, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Johnny Williams (Bobbie's son).

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Be sure and mark your calendar -**

- September 5: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- September 5: Charlie DiPalma to speak at evening worship
- September 12: Singing class in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

### LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

#### Front Table

- Purman Cofer
- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer
- Glen Kelly
- Brandon Howard
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Dorris Walker

#### Rear Table

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

### SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Jerry McKey
- Garl Latham
- Stan Selby

### A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Mike Batot
- Isaiah 9: 6, 7

### A.M. SONG LEADER

- Darrell Allen

### SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Mike Batot
- Denzil Myers

**P.M. SCRIPTURE READING**

· TBA – Update on Malaysia

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

· Garl Latham

**LORD’S TABLE/EVENING**

· Robert Ruckman  
· Thomas Rathbun

**COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

· Bill Paschall

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

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	84	88	84	125
A.M. Worship	145	152	148	210
P.M. Worship	73	87	77	112
Wed. Class	81	92	79	110
Ladies Bible Class	-	-	28	30
Contribution	\$4685	\$4422	\$5273	\$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 – Stephenville, TX
- Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
- Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
- 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