

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

October 17, 2011
Volume 3 Number 39

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
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

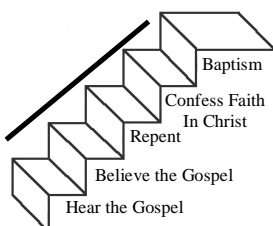
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Commandments- Objective Logic

Don Hatch

Traditionally the Hebrews have numbered the commandments in the Old Testament at 613. They are statements, principles, legal terms, ethical items and spiritual practices in the first five books of the Old Testament (Torah). These are often connected commandments or collectively called the “Law of Moses” or “Mosaic Law”. There have been attempts to “codify and enumerate them”. Possibly Maimonides did the best scholarly work on enumerating them [preeminent medieval Jewish scholar, on the Torah, in the Middle Ages 1135-1204 AD]. He believed that there were 365 negative commandments called “abstinence” and 248 positive commandments “significant to human life”. Violations of various commandments were considered so objectionable it was better to die than break them [murder, idolatry, sexual impurity]. The commandments made logical sense, gave perfect direction and often included illustrations of those who were called into question concerning them. Some of the Old Testament commandments were directly attached to the Temple or the land of Israel and others were time based with special applications to men and women. Questions arose concerning the 613 commandments. Which were statements to be counted as commandments for Israel and other nations? Which utterance became a specific command in the list? Does one count a single verse which offers prohibitions as one or more commandment? Such “snatching at straws” became points of useless debate. Maimonides’ list is found frequently in Hebrew literature.

Commandments of God list religious and moral imperatives. They are designed to give definition to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. God’s spoken word was equal with His written word. They were recognized as the moral and spiritual foundation for the Patarichal, Mosaic and Christian ages. The Monotheistic [One God] belief is opposed to Polytheism [many gods]. Prohibitions against many gods and idols designated Jehovah as the only true God worthy of worship. Rejecting Him and worshiping other gods has always been denied by the Law and the Prophets. Promises that God would love and honor them that loved Him are time honored for the faithful and obedient. The commandments linked mankind to certain inextricable likenesses of God. Conceiving God to be a Creator and Sustainer causes His laws to transcend all manmade laws. Sacred history and performances of miracles are evidentiary [outward signs Heb

2:1-5]. Significance of the commands of God are that they, when observed, persuade the faithfully obedient to commit themselves to a cause greater than themselves.

God’s commandments are not grievous (1 Jn 5:3). The great significance of law leads to rightful liberties according to the will of God wherein limits are for all. Law cannot be the tyrant’s will but is a government for those of good will. God created the law of free will, law of cause and effect and he that violates law finds that the benefits and consequences of lawfulness and lawlessness are profound. No one is above the law and no man is beneath it. God does not have to ask man’s permission when He tells them to obey. Obedience to the laws of God is not a right. Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, yet bad people seek an avenue around laws. It is imperative that we reject the idea that every time a law is broken, society is the guilty party rather than those who break the law. Individuals are accountable for their own actions.

Mankind when seeking perfection is at its best, but when separated from law and justice they are at their worst. “But we know that law is good, if a man use it lawfully, as knowing this, that law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and unruly, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for abusers of themselves with men, for menstealers, for liars, for false swearers, and if there be any other thing contrary to sound doctrine; according to the gospel of the glory of the blessed God, which was committed unto my trust” (1 Tim 1:8-11). Everyone should be taught that violating law treads on the heritage established by our forefathers and rends the hope of our children’s liberty.

A careful survey of the New Testament identifies that there are laws, “Law of the Spirit, Law of Christ, Perfect Law, Royal Law and Law of Liberty” (Rom 8:1,2; Gal 6:1-5; Jas 1:26; 2:8). All should speak and do as though they will be judged by the law of liberty. By putting away all filthiness and overflowing of wickedness and receiving with meekness the implanted word we will find salvation for our souls. Believing that we can be a hearer that forgets God’s law places us in conflict with His law. Looking into the perfect law, law of liberty, being a hearer who practices the principle and percepts of law, manifests that we will be blessed of God. The object of religion is to seek the highest good by honoring God, loving Him with all our heart, soul and mind, loving and doing unto others as we would have them do unto us (Mat 22:34-40). Jesus warns the disciple that relaxing of the least of the commandments and teaching men so, places one in league with the woeful Pharisees (Mat 5:17-20; 23:1-39). Jesus places the New Testament law in the arena of history by saying “If you love me you will keep my commandments” (Jn 14:15). Those who love Him abide in His love. The Great Commission teaches observing all the commandments (Mat 28:18-20).

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

I think it is worth our time and study to understand how important the bible is to our lives and the lives of our loved ones. The bible is our roadmap to heaven. It tells us where we came from and where we are going! There is no book in the world that can even come close to answering those questions. Bro. Guy Caskey wrote, **The bible is no ordinary book, God is the author and its Source:** "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;" Heb. 1:1-2

The Bible is not a man-made book it is from God: "But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught *it*, but *it came* through the revelation of Jesus Christ." Gal. 1:11-12

The Bible is the inspired word of God: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Tim. 3:16-17

Brother Glen Tattersall in Tasmania, Australia put this article in his Sunday morning handout. Richard Renfro

The Bible

Generation follows generation, yet it lives.

Nations rise and fall; yet it lives.

Doubted and criticized, yet it lives.

Condemned by atheists, yet it lives.

Betrayed by fanatics, yet it lives.

Wrongfully used, misquoted,

YET IT LIVES! . . .

A lamp to our feet and a light to our path,

A guide for the youth and the aged,

A food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty,

A light to the ignorant, salvation for sinners,

A rest for the weary, the roadmap to heaven.

To know it is to love it.

To love it is to accept it.

To accept it is to obey it.

To obey it is eternal life.

"Praise ye Jehovah. Praise, O ye servants of Jehovah, Praise the name of Jehovah. Blessed be the name of Jehovah From this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same Jehovah's name is to be praised. Jehovah is high above all nations, And his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto Jehovah our God, That hath his seat on high...? (Psm 113:1-9)

True Vine

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh it away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he cleanseth it, that it may bear more fruit. Already ye are clean because of the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; so neither can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same beareth much fruit: for apart from me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; and so shall ye be my disciples" (Jn 15:1-8).

Jesus is the true vine, a perfect symbol of how the church was to be furnished life and sustenance. All resources needed for the church to bear fruit would be supplied. This allegory is the last opportunity for Christ to manifest to the disciples that they would be spiritually fruitful and fruit-bearing (Gal 5:22, 23). This illustration is not new to the teachings of Jesus. Israel was acquainted with the vine and fruitfulness (Ps 80:14; 123:3; Joel 2:22; Mal 3:1). It was well-known that at certain seasons vines did not bear fruit. The central message was that the vine was planted, pruned and dunged in order that the husbandman would receive the rewards of his labor. Abiding in Jesus as a branch requires fruitfulness. Those branches which do not bear fruit must be removed as they were injurious to the health of the vine (1 Cor 12:12-31). Judas had the outward appearance of fruitfulness, but he was an unproductive branch. Ultimately the branches which the Lord prunes are cast into a fire (Jn 15:6).

Jesus illustrated fruit and the harvesting by saying men would be known by their fruits (Mat 7:15-23). A corrupt tree cannot produce good fruit. Good trees cannot produce bad fruit. Not everyone can say that they are bearing good fruit. Many will claim that they are, only to be proven wrong by a closer examination (Heb 6:1-8). The analogy of Jesus is strengthened as Judas leaves to sell Him for thirty pieces of silver. Judas claimed to be a disciple, but was a betrayer. A falling away from the grace of God is clearly illustrated in this passage (Gal 5:1-5; Acts 5:1-10).

Disciples merge within Christ and His church (Eph 4:1-16). This unity is based upon love and good works (Heb 10:19-25). Considering one another and provoking unto love and good works is a spiritual reason for our assemblies. There is a unity which the vine and branches share. This unity is spiritual and piously founded upon a love for the truth. The portraiture Jesus gives is about a glorious life of producing fruit for God (Rev 2:10). Jesus adorns those who serve with the ability to persistently produce. Those who have God's words stored up in their heart and mind do not seek to sin (Psm 119:11; 1 Jn 5:1-12). The branches being cared for by the husbandman is an important part of this analogy. The work of the Father through Jesus has been to justify, sanctify and glorify those who serve. The fruit is natural to the spiritually guided disciple (Gal 5:22, 23; Mat 3:8-10).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

October 23, 2011

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Max Melton & Carol Swinney

October 30, 2011

Front foyer: J.C. & Dessie Ross

Back foyer: Mary Scott & Doris Selby

Sermon Titles

October 23, 2011

a.m: "Bringing Frustration Into Focus"

Scripture: Psalm 37:7-9

p.m: "Let Love Be Without Hypocrisy"

Scripture: Romans 12:9-12

October 30, 2011

a.m: "Dispensation Of God"

Scripture: Phil. 1:24-29

p.m: Fifth Sunday Singing

Scripture: To Be Announced

Contribution Counters

John Mayer and Bobby England

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' 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.

NEWS OF THE SICK

Roland and Rose Moshen, our missionaries in France are struggling with pneumonia. Please keep them in your prayers.

Charlotte Nigh's daughter, **Tracy Tumey** is back in Parkland Hospital with internal bleeding.

James Brown is at home and is scheduled for gall bladder surgery on October 21st at Las Colinas Medical Center.

Grady & B.C. Fowler's son, **Tim** has been diagnosed with colon cancer. He is scheduled for further testing on October 17th.

Laquita Baker had successful surgery last week and is in Baylor, Irving, room 464. Please keep her in your prayers.

Melissa Allen received a good report from her tests.

Perry Cotham had a bad fall and is now home from the hospital.

Jean Kelly is now in hospice care at Avalon Alzheimer's Center. Please keep Glen and Jean in your prayers.

Roy and Helen Thomas are having health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

Maxine Prude is not feeling well.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 25th at 9:30 a.m. The lesson will be "**Two-Month Journey to Sinai**" and "**One Year at Sinai**", taught by Beverly McKey.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Jean Kelly, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Debra Alonzo, Maxine Prude, Serena

Hatch Jacob, Evelyn Armstrong, Letitia Beverly, Hank Henry

BEAR MINISTRY

Stuffer's please pick up your bears on Sunday, October 23rd.

5th SUNDAY SINGING

There is a request sheet in the front foyer for the 5th Sunday night singing for this month. Please fill out the sheet for the song leaders.

LADIES ½ DAY

Sister **Laura Jenkins** has agreed to be our guest speaker at our 11th annual **Ladies ½ Day** in April 2012.

CHRIST'S HAVEN

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**.

We are getting low on grocery bags. If you have empty ones, would you please bring them to the church building?

CHURCH OF CHRIST AREA-WIDE PROGRAMS

Graham St./N Desoto Church of Christ – Sunday 6:55-7:15 a.m. KBEC 1390 (AM Radio)

"The Truth In Love" - Sunday 7:30 a.m. KFWD (TV)

"In Search Of The Lord's Way" – Sunday 7:00 a.m. KDFI (TV)

Main St. Church of Christ – Sunday 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. 1630 AM (Radio)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 25th – Ladies Class – 9:30 a.m.

UPCOMING OCT. BIRTHDAY'S

Brandon Howard – 10/18
 Janie Walker – 10/19
 Marinell Zaun – 10/20
 Richard Renfro – 10/22
 Stephanie Howard – 10/22
 Jan Smithson – 10/22
 Roy Martin – 10/24
 Letitia Beverly – 10/26
 Sandy Hall – 10/31

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Richard & Carolyn Renfro – 10/15
 Darrell & Melissa Allen – 10/24

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE/MORNING</u>		10/23/11	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Richard Renfro
·Mike Batot	· Bobby England		· Jerry McKey
·James Gilliam	·Brent Howard		· Dean Webb
·Brandon Howard	·Roy Martin		
·Glen Kelly	·J.C. Ross		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Bill Matthews			· Darrell Allen
·John Mayer			Psalm 37:7-9
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>LORD'S TABLE/EVENING</u>			· Marvin Brown
·Bill Paschall			· Glen Kelly
·Mike Batot			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			· Thomas Rathbun
·Darrell Allen			Romans 12:9-12
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
·Jerry Baker			· 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	74	79	80	100
A.M. Worship	137	130	146	150
P.M. Worship	70	77	75	75
Wed. Class	86	92	80	75
Ladies Bible Class	22	20	24	25
Contribution	\$5102	\$4706	\$4968	\$5553

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 – Cape Town, South Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT

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