



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

November 20, 2023

Volume 15 Number 43

1202 N. Belt Line Road

Irving, TX 75061

972-790-8606

Web site:

www.beltlinechurch.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.

AM Worship 10:00 a.m.

PM Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

MINISTER

Doug Post

Email:

doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Darrell Allen

Richard Renfro

Dean Webb

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham

beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear - Romans 10:17

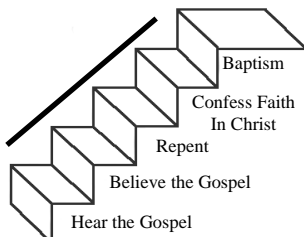
Believe - John 8:24

Repent - Acts 17:30

Confess - Romans 10:10

Be Baptized - Acts 22:16

Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT (PART 10 D)

Doug Post

“If the Spirit were the element specifically being referenced, then we have the difficulty of explaining how we are baptized in the Spirit and then that we come out of the Spirit. If we were to come out of the Spirit, we would lose the benefit or the effect of that element.”¹

Last week we noted how the above quote implies several things. First, it implies a person never arises from being baptized in the Spirit, which is admitted in the above quote. Our brother is attempting to make the point that a person is **literally** baptized INTO the Holy Spirit and **literally** remains within Him (and the Spirit, at the same time, of course, is now **literally** inside the person), poses a real problem our brother’s doctrine. How can the Holy Spirit, who is completely pure – not having any sin, or any inclination to sin – having no darkness within Himself, have a sinful person **literally** residing inside Him?

Remember, our brother is arguing that a person is **literally** baptized in the Holy Spirit, being **literally**, and spatially, inside the perfect, sinless, pure Holy Spirit, even though the Holy Spirit tells us that “**God is light and in Him is no darkness at all**” (1 John 1:5), so how can a sinful person **literally** be inside Deity? How can a person who will continue to sin, **literally** be inside Deity? Does the Holy Spirit kick the person (who is **literally** inside Him), out of his Spirit body, and does the Holy Spirit (who is said to **literally** be inside the person who sins), jump out of the person every time he sins? Quite simply, absurdity begets absurdity.

We also noted that our brother teaches the Holy Spirit, allegedly, must change the “nature” of the human spirit even though the person is baptized for the forgiveness of sins and saved (Acts 2:38, 22:16; cf. Mark 16:16). That the Holy Spirit **literally** touches the human spirit, cleansing and removing all remaining impurities that baptism in water missed, “regenerating” the person. It is here that, allegedly, the Holy Spirit supernaturally infuses spiritual steroids into the person, causing the person to come alive, spiritually. And within this process the Holy Spirit **literally** submerges the person into Himself, from which the person never arises. But the Holy Spirit teaches that baptism involves (1) being buried in water and (2) arising from the same element (water), which is in the likeness of Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection (Rom.6:3-6). But our brother eliminates the concept of “arising,” redefining baptism to sustain his view. In fact, our brother tells us that being baptized in the Holy Spirit is just like being baptized in water:

“Now if the birth that involves water is a baptism in water, then why shouldn’t we think that the birth that involves the Spirit would also be a baptism in Spirit? If water is an element, then why wouldn’t Spirit as used in the same reference be an element as well? It is not sufficient to explain John 3:3-5 by claiming that all that is involved is baptism in water in harmony with the word of the Spirit”²

Our brother teaches that baptism in water is to be viewed as being identical with baptism in the Holy Spirit but argues for something different when he eliminates the concept of “arising” from the Spirit. If one comes out of the element of water, then one would expect one would come out of the Holy Spirit if both were identical. Our brother is not making a case for baptism, he’s making a case for drowning, as he as the person literally and perpetually immersed inside the Spirit, which implies the person cannot sin. How can sin exist if a person is literally inside Deity? After all, there is no darkness at all in the Holy Spirit. Yes, absurdity begets absurdity. However, the concept of a figurative dwelling of Deity has no such difficulties because it does not teach such absurdity as the Spirit having to jump in and out of a person due to his sin. We will pick up here next week.

¹ Deaver, Mac. – The Holy Spirit: Center of Controversy - Basis of Unity; Denton, TX: Biblical Notes. 2007, p.298.

² IBID, p.299

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line Road Church of Christ

Call in your information to the office at:

972-790-8606 by Sunday evening



Ongoing Health Concerns: Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Jeanene Heilman, Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West, Billy Whitfield, Jerry Grantham, Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Dean Webb, Judy Odom, Lilla Tripp, Patti Kidd, Kenneth Treadwell, Janice Daniel

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Elma Lawrence (room #516) and Fernando Ybarra (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur**
Polly Roses (room #206) – **West Fork Village**
Glen Kelly – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)
Virginia Stull – **Morada** – (room #B118) – (Grand Prairie, Tx.)

Military: Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

UPDATES:

Eula Hedrick has been released from the hospital and is now home.

Joy Webb is home with Bronchitis.

Thomas Rathbun's brother **Victor** is having heart surgery on December 5th.

Mariana Pauli would like to thank everyone for the prayers for her family immigration status. She can now go back to teaching. Continue to keep her family in your prayers.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our missionaries, military, first responders and weather-related victims.

On **Wednesday, November 22**, our Wednesday night adult Bible class will begin studying James and 1 & 2 Peter.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – November 26, 2023

Front Foyer: Mary Elaina Vaughan & Nora Phillips

Back Foyer: Thomas & Karen Rathbun

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**THOSE TO SERVE ON: November 26, 2023**

11/22/23 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm

Announcements – Dean Webb

Song Leaders – a.m. Darrell Allen
p.m. Darrell Allen

Prayers – a.m. Thomas Rathbun
George Tripp
p.m. Walt LaHaye
Richard Renfro

Scripture Reading – a.m. George Tripp
Ephesians 4:4-6
p.m. David Cofer
Matthew 22:37-40

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Richard Renfro & Thomas Rathbun

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Isabelle Conner 11/8
Doris Selby 11/13
Gary Workman 11/14
Nancy Pond 11/15
Nathan Allen 11/17

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>11/19/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	32	33	100
A.M. Worship	51	60	150
P.M. Worship	32	36	80
Wed. Class	33	30	85
Contribution	\$3104	\$4472	\$4,871

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Carol Lee 11/25

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

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 – *Jose Mata*

Brethren, more emphasis is directed toward being thankful and Thanksgiving during this time of year than at any other time. But the heart of thankfulness should be deep-rooted in each of us every single day.

Do you remember the story of the 10 lepers in Luke 17:11-19? Jesus healed 10 lepers and only one returned to thank Jesus. The others were undoubtedly excited that they were healed, but they forgot to be thankful to the very One that healed them. How often are we more like the nine lepers that failed to show their thankfulness than the one leper who did? In the midst of God's many blessings in our lives, we too often become so focused on ourselves and our own life circumstances that we simply do not take the time we should say "Thank You" to the One who blesses us so richly.

It is the pattern of the world to "live-in-the-moment" and focus on the immediate situations at hand. But Romans 12:2 tells us, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 we are told, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Being thankful is the pattern that we are to follow. It is something we need to practice daily and embed in every aspect of our lives.

Have a safe and "Happy Thanksgiving" and a great week serving God. Pray for all of the sick, shut-ins, and the bereaved.

Dean Webb

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