



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

September 25, 2023
Volume 15 Number 36
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

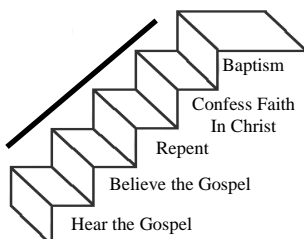
Darrell Allen
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

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 5)

Doug Post

As we continue investigating the concept of “baptized” in the Holy Spirit, we remind ourselves of the meaning of “baptism,” which is the idea of being completely immersed, submerged, or overwhelmed in the Holy Spirit. Luke also referred to it as being “clothed” with power (Luke 24:49; c.f. Acts 1:8).

Just as one cannot be partially immersed in water and it be properly called “baptized” in water, one cannot be partially immersed in the Holy Spirit, and it be called “baptized” in the Holy Spirit. One is either immersed (baptized) in the Holy Spirit or he is not. There are no gradations or degrees of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. One was either bestowed with overwhelming power from the Spirit, or he was not.

When one suggests Cornelius and his household were baptized in the Holy Spirit, they are redefining the word “baptized,” because they are alleging differing degrees of being baptized in the Holy Spirit – one degree of baptized in the Holy Spirit for the apostles, and another degree of baptized in the Holy Spirit for Cornelius and those with him. But such an assumption brings with it more questions.

Did Cornelius receive exactly what the apostles received? Could he lay hands on others, providing them with supernatural power? If there were degrees of being baptized in the Holy Spirit between the apostles and Cornelius, then does that mean there were degrees of power distributed among the apostles, themselves? Were some apostles’ superior to others due to these alleged degrees of being baptized in the Holy Spirit? Was one apostle supernaturally more powerful than another if there are degrees of being baptized in the Holy Spirit?

If Cornelius and others received what the apostles received, would they not also enjoy the same powers and benefits, which come from being baptized in the Holy Spirit? If not, why not? As was pointed out in a previous article, how do Holy Spirit inspired men (apostles) teach other Holy Spirit inspired men (Cornelius and his household), if both groups received the exact same baptism in the Holy Spirit, especially if being baptized in the Holy Spirit brought with it revelation?

Cornelius was not “clothed” with power as were the apostles. Certainly, the Holy Spirit supernaturally enabled him to speak in tongues (The “**Holy Spirit’s gift**,” Acts 10:45; cf. 2:38-39), but there is no evidence he received anything more than the gift of speaking in tongues. By being baptized in the Holy Spirit – **clothed with power** – it may be said the apostles were clothed in the Holy Spirit, because the phrase *clothed with power* is **metonymy** for *baptized in the Holy Spirit* (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5). The apostles worked all kinds of miracles, and exclusive to them was the giving of power to others by the laying of their hands. This was a benefit to them in being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Finally, in **Acts 11:16-17** we find that the adverbs are comparing the situation involving the apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), with the situation involving Cornelius, occurring 8-10 years later (Acts 10-11). These are adverbs of *manner* – not *measure* – describing how each received miraculous power and not the *measure* or amount it. Both the apostles and Cornelius received miraculous power, **directly**, as opposed to receiving it, indirectly, by the laying on of hands. Hence the expression, “poured out.” Peter was contemplating the way the miraculous power was received, as both the apostles and Cornelius received power from on high or from above. The grammar does not discuss the measure of power. Cornelius, and those with him, received a gift from the Spirit, or the Holy Spirit’s gift of speaking in tongues, or quite simply, the **gift of the Holy Spirit**, while the apostles’ received **immersion in the Holy Spirit** – the overwhelming power conferred upon them by the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus promised (John 14-16; Acts 1:4-5, 8, 2:1-4). Again, the grammar buttresses our point in this series of articles.

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

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:

There has been a request from **Irina**. She would like us to pray for her son's current work situation.

Janie Walker has Covid.

Nathan Allen has been suffering from food poisoning.

Veronia Whitfield is ill.

David West's cousin, **Danny Profit** was in a motorcycle accident and has some serious injuries as a result. Please keep him 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.

We extend our deepest sympathy to **Eva Stambaugh** and family as her brother-in-law **Michael** passed away. **Jim** and **Eva** have gone to Kentucky for the funeral.

THANK YOU NOTES (On Bulletin Board)

There is a note from **Don Herriage, Patti Necessary, Gordon Scruggs, & Rees Scruggs**.

There is also a note from the Family of **George Terry Henson**.

Address for **Carol Partridge** while she is at her daughter's home recovering: #2 Carrol Price Ct.
Mansfield, Tx. 76063

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – **October 1, 2023**

Front Foyer: *Walt LaHaye & Billy Joe Swain*

Back Foyer: *Nora Phillips & Mary Elaina Vaughan*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/27/23 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David West	9/1
Jackye Jewett	9/2
Dean Webb	9/4
Brenda Bryant	9/7
Billy Joe Swain	9/8
Katherine Cox	9/8
Charlotte Burrows	9/17
Mary Martini	9/24
Eva Stambaugh	9/30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Vern & Melody Lundquist	9/22
Ray & LaFon Simpson	9/27

THOSE TO SERVE ON: **October 1, 2023**

Announcements – Darrell Allen

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

Prayers – a.m. Joseph Paul
Jerry McKey

p.m. David Cofer
Richard Renfro

Scripture Reading – a.m. Thomas Rathbun
Matthew 16:26
p.m. Jerry McKey
Isaiah 41:10

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Darrell Allen & Walt LaHaye

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>9/24/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	27	33	100
A.M. Worship	61	62	150
P.M. Worship	37	37	80
Wed. Class	33	30	85
Contribution	\$3,966	\$4,548	\$4,871

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*

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN

*This is the interpretation of each word. **MENE**: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; **TEKEL**: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; **PERES**: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.’’ Daniel 5:25-28*

“The handwriting was on the wall” and “You have been weighed and measured and found wanting” are two expressions gleaned from Daniel 5 that found their way into our common vernacular. To my understanding, the first saying is generally used to denote that the future outcome of some activity is clearly evident for all to see. Not a surprise to anyone paying attention. How often do we see others living in such a way and know exactly where their actions will lead them. If to their detriment, do we “sit idly while they rush onwards” or do we “hold up Christ the true light”? If they are doing well, do we commend and encourage them on?

Blunt and brutal is an apt description of “You have been weighed and measured and found wanting.” Delivering such a statement could be horrible enough but receiving it, how awful. Anyone who has failed a test, cut from or from making a team, fired, or denied admittance or acceptance have tasted that bitter pill. How eternally worse it will be for those who hear something similar from the Lord.

*“And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”
Matt. 7:23*

God’s word is our handwriting on the wall and we all will be weighed and measured by it. Let us read, meditate, live, share and show it to all via our lives to those around us this week.

Darrell Allen

**Belt Line Road Church of Christ
1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, Texas 75061**

