



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

December 12, 2022

Volume 14 Number 50

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 7:00 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

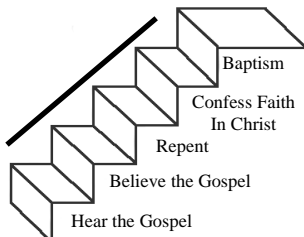
Believe - John 8:24

Repent - Acts 17:30

Confess - Romans 10:10

Be Baptized - Acts 22:16

Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Calvinism (Part Three)

The concept of *Total Hereditary Depravity* as it relates to the faulty theological system known as Calvinism, teaches mankind is born in sin, that every baby is born a “little devil,” having inherited sin from Adam. And, since every human being is born “**dead in sin**” (Eph.2:1-3), there is nothing we can do to effect righteousness, i.e., we cannot do right nor can we even respond to the gospel, unless, and until, God directly and supernaturally manipulates the mind, supernaturally infusing them with faith and the ability to respond to the gospel message. *Total Hereditary Depravity* is assumed because it results from the false premise that humanity is born in sin, born sinful human beings. We refer to this as “circular reasoning” and if the premise is false, so is the conclusion. Therefore, we must ask the question, “Just who or what is born sinful?” We are made in the “**image**” and “**likeness**” of God (Gen.1:26-27; 9:6; 1 Cor.11:7; James 3:9; Acts 17:29).

Folks, the part of man that is made in the image and likeness of God is our spirit – the human spirit. While there is a distinction between spirit and soul (Heb.4:12), they are sometimes used interchangeably. Paul describes the human spirit as the inward man (2 Cor. 4:16; Rom.7:22; cf. Prov.20:7). In fact, the Holy Spirit specifically says: “**Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it**” (Eccl.12:7). What we must understand is that the human spirit comes from God. God is pure and holy. He is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all (John 1: and returns to God. The obvious point here is that God does not create or fashion sin, nor does He create, or fashion anything sinful, including the human spirit. God and sin are polar, opposites. God and sin cannot even be mentioned in the same breath. Nothing sinful can come from God, including the spirit which He gives to human beings.

All human beings are born upright and then go astray, which is the point the prophet Isaiah makes in declaring, “**All we like sheep have gone astray**” (Isa.53:6). Please note Isaiah does not say mankind is *born astray*, he says we *go astray*, and there is a vast difference between those two thoughts. David says, “**The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies**” (Psa.58:3). Again, it is said we “**go astray**,” it does not say we are *born astray*.

Some argue that the text says we go astray as soon as we are born. Yes, however, David is using a figure of speech called *hyperbole*. He is not suggesting babies, literally, begin sinning as soon as they are born any more than they, literally, begin speaking lies the moment they are born. Rather, he is simply saying we go astray at a relatively young age. However, if humanity is BORN astray, then where do they go when the GO astray? Do they go more astray from being astray?

Scripture does not teach mankind is born in sin. He does not have a sinful nature and, therefore, man cannot help but sin. On the contrary, it teaches we sin despite a good nature: “**Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions**” (Ecclesiastes 7:29). In other words, they “**go astray**.” The Prophet Ezekiel stresses the fact that sin is not inherited by saying, “**The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself**” (Ezk.18:20). The Truth is babies do not inherit sin from Adam. “**For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil...**” (Romans 9:11). Elsewhere we are told that “**little ones**” and “**children**” have no “**knowledge of good and evil**” (Deut.1:39). Isaiah 7:16 speaks of a child coming to an age when he knows to “**refuse the evil and choose the good**.” Please consider these thoughts and we will pick up here next week.

Doug Post

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: David West, Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Anne Herriage, Katherine Cox, Marinell Zaun, Vera Gleghorn, Nelda Bell Newton, Donna Davis, Carol Partridge, Mike Haynes, Jan Smithson, Jerry Grantham, Karen Rathbun, Terry Henson, LaFon Simpson, Doris Selby, George Tripp

Home Bound Members: Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Anne Herriage (room #204-A) and Marinell Zaun & Vera Gleghorn (room #315) – **Avante Elma Lawrence** (room #516) and **Fernando Ybarra** (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur Polly Roses** (room #206) and **Donna Davis** (room #312) – **West Fork Village Glen Kelly** – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)

Military: Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

UPDATES:

Bobby and Brenda England both have Covid.

Fernando Ybarra still remains at Baylor, Scott and White Hospital.

Anne Herriage, Marinell Zaun and Vera Gleghorn all have Covid.

Dean Webb was released from the hospital yesterday afternoon. They were trying to get his heart medication regulated. He is still in some pain from broken ribs as a result of a car accident several weeks ago.

We rejoice in that many of our members who have had Covid recently were able to be back at services on Sunday.

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 military, first responders and Hurricane victims.

Please pick up a **Green Can** for **Foster's Home For Children** and put your loose change in it for the children. We have empty cans in both foyers for you to take and fill up. The cans will be picked up the week of **December 26th**.

I appreciate all of your prayers, visits, cards and phone calls. Thank You, **Doris Selby**

Thank You to all who donated, assembled and delivered Gift Bags to our Shut-Ins.

Please check: "Lost and Found" box in the Library for your lost items. If the items are not claimed by the end of December, they will be donated.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – December 18, 2022

Front Foyer: Terry and Clarine Henson

Back Foyer: Jackeye Jewett and Alice Worthy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**THOSE TO SERVE ON December 18, 2022****DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Grady Fowler 12/1
 Virginia Stull 12/6
 Elizabeth Garrison 12/13
 Carol Lee 12/24
 Brenda England 12/29

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Sharon Haynes 12/24
 David & Judy Odom 12/31

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

Prayers – a.m. Richard Renfro
 Jerry McKey

p.m. Darrell Allen
 David Cofer

Scripture Reading – a.m. David Cofer
 Colossians 3:1-4
 p.m. Richard Renfro
 Micah 6:8

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Dean Webb – Thomas Rathbun

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>12/11/22</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	30	37	100
A.M. Worship	58	65	150
P.M. Worship	29	42	80
Wed. Class	33	31	85
Contribution	\$3,591	\$4,520	\$5,060

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – *Australia*
Roland & Rose Mohsen – *France*
Gary & Nadya Workman – *Ukraine*
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*
Dennis & Beth Johnson – *Chennai Teacher Training School – India*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Christ's Haven Children's Home – *Keller, Texas*
Foster's Home for Children – *Stephenville, Texas*
The Gospel of Christ
In Search of the Lord's Way
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Brown Trail School of Preaching – *Jose Mata, Michael Oliver*

The reign of King Manasseh lasted 55 years. The longest reign of any king of either Judah or Israel. He led Judah to heights of depravity that surpassed even the Canaanites. Even though he eventually repented and tried to set right the wrongs he committed (2 Chr. 33:11-16), the damage to the nation was complete and its fate was sealed.

Then the LORD said to me, "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out on My sight, and let them go forth I will hand them over to trouble, to all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem. (Jer. 15:1,4)

Nevertheless, the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of His great wrath, with which His anger was aroused against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked Him. And the LORD said, "I will also remove Judah from My sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, 'My name shall be there. (2 Kings 23:26-27)

Surely at the commandment of the LORD this came upon Judah, to remove them from His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, and also because of the innocent blood that he had shed; for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which the LORD would not pardon. (2 Kings 24:3-4)

With the recent elections now concluded and regardless of who may have won, let us pray for those in positions of power and influence, that they may lead towards righteousness. As we pray for them let's not forget each other and ourselves that we always walk the path of righteousness, showing others the way. We are the light of the world! Lets shine!

Darrell Allen

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