

**DeKalb Church
of Christ**

1265 E. Front St.
Hwy. 82 East
DeKalb, TX 75559
903-667-2388

**Schedule of
Services**

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
69 CR 3204

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903-701-6700

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**What must I do to
be saved?**

1. **Hear the Gospel.**
(Rom. 10:17; Acts. 18:8)
2. **Believe in Christ.**
(Jn. 8:24; 20:30-31)
3. **Repent of my sins.**
(Acts 17:30-31)
4. **Confess my faith in Christ.**
(Acts. 8:37; 1 Tim. 6:12)
5. **Be baptized into Christ.**
(Acts. 2:38; Mk. 16:16)
6. **Be faithful.**
(Rev. 2:10)

Record (6-3-07)

B.C. – 45
A.M. – 69
P.M. – 31
Wed. B.C. – N/A
Offering – \$1,834
Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

News & Notes

Shut-Ins/Extd illness - *(Remember with calls, cards, prayers, visits, etc.)*

Carlos Rodgers; Bessie Daniel; Paula Hodgson; Netia Ward; Neta Wilsford
Pat and Mary Ann Davis; Homer Batchelor; Ashley Sowders; DeWayne Garner
H. L. Jackson; Joey Almaraz (Fort Sill, OK for army basic training)

Prayer List *(b/c of space, names appear only once)*

- *Frank Baggs (in Wadley b/c of heart attack; uncle of Gail Styles)
- *Karen (daughter-in-law to Ophelia Walraven, had brain catheterization)
- *Jane Turner (her foot is not healing as it should)
- *Richard Angle (friend of the Sikes, his baby died suddenly)
- *Genita Dalby (her nephew passed away this past week)
- *Those traveling on vacations.

Announcements

- *Happy Birthday to Raelissa Sikes, Doyle Raney, Zach Booth, and Helen Richardson!
- *Happy Anniversary to the Feazel's and the Gilbert's!
- *There is a tea to welcome the new De Kalb ISD Superintendent, David Manley, today at the Administration Building from 2-4.
- *Congregational Singing practice - today @ 5pm.
- *There is a thank-you note from Jessica Mitchell on the bulletin board.
- *Youth: DeKalb will host the SYBSNET on Monday, June 11th (7-8:45pm). We need people to sign up to help with the refreshments. Ladies have been asked to bring "finger desserts" (i.e., cookies, brownies, etc.). Parents and teens, make plans to attend!
- *Devotional at Sunny Acres next Sunday at 3 PM.
- *Birthday Party at Sunny Acres next Wednesday at 2PM. Please sign up to bring a cake.
- *Youth: Wednesday Youth Night – June 27
- *Everyone is invited to a bridal shower honoring Susie Rainer and Aerie Miller, June 30th from 1:00 to 3:00 at the church building. The invitation is on the bulletin board.
- *Everyone is invited to the Dalby's house on June 30th @ 5:30pm for a congregational fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet so everyone can sign up for the food they want to bring.

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Volume 2, Issue 23

www.dekalbchurchofchrist.com

June 10, 2007

Privileged To Serve...

June 10th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Dickie Dalby

Song Leader (AM / PM)...John Gibbert

Lord's Table.... Craig Loe, Mitchell Weeks, & Phillip Raney

Scripture Reading (Communion): Buddy Ray

Scripture Reading (Sermon): Zack Booth (Mat. 5:1-2)

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....John Loe

Closing.....Dwayne Jeffery

AM Sermon: Living the Beatitudes

PM Sermon: Q & A session

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:15). We preach Jesus Christ as the resurrected Son of God (I Cor. 15:1-4) and the Bible as His revealed will for all nations of the earth (Mk. 16:15-16).

We invite you to come worship with us at every opportunity you may have. Should you desire to study the Bible with us in your home, please let us know. We will be happy to give you a Bible answer for your Bible question.

We have three elders: Dickie Dalby, Pat Davis, and John Loe. These men oversee the congregation (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17; I Tim. 3:1ff). We also have three deacons - Giles Feazel, Dwayne Jeffery, and Jim Reaves, who serve the congregation in various ways (Acts 6:3; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8ff). Our preacher is Michael Gilbert (2 Tm. 4:2).

**Highlights From
Highlighted Passages**

"Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them...But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." (Acts 8:5, 12)

As Philip preached the gospel to Samaria, it should be noted that he preached: (1) the kingdom of God, and (2) the name of Jesus Christ.

Sincere Bible students know that the kingdom of Christ was established on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:30-33) and was called the "church" (Acts 2:47). When Philip preached, it was with power and conviction. He message was a narrow message - he preached "the" kingdom. Obviously, his message and confirming miracles were in direct opposition to the beliefs of the people and the current practices of Simon the Sorcerer, but he preached anyway, no doubt offending many, for all did not obey his message.

He also preached the "name of Christ", which simply means the authority of Christ. Philip preached exactly what Peter preached, namely, that Jesus is now the resurrected "Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36), and obedience must be rendered to Him now, for one day, He will be the Judge of all (2 Cor. 5:10). After Philip preached, many were baptized.

Preaching Christ, then, means preaching the true, singular nature of the kingdom and preaching that all must render obedience through baptism to the resurrected King of Kings.

Do biblical claims of divine inspiration really mean anything? Should we stress the fact that thousands of times in the Bible a person can find sentences prefaced by the words “God said...” or “Thus said the Lord God...”. Recently I received a letter that read: “To say that ‘all scripture is by inspiration of God’ is pointless double-speak that proves nothing!” Is this an accurate statement?

Admittedly, the mere claim that a certain document is inspired of God does not mean He actually inspired it. If a person attempts to defend the inspiration of the Bible solely on the premise that the Bible claims inspiration, likely his efforts to convince an unbeliever will fail. Simply because a particular book claims to be from God does not mean that it is from God. However, to say that the claim of inspiration “is pointless double-speak” greatly diminishes the importance of such a claim.

The fact is, the claim of inspiration at the hand of God is extremely rare. Many books assert special importance, while others claim to be a kind of “creed book.” But, as Kenny Barfield noted in his book, *Why the Bible is Number 1*, only seven documents exist in the whole world that openly claim divine inspiration (1997, p. 186). Sadly, misguided devotees of various religions clamor about, defending books and various writings as allegedly being “inspired of God” when, in fact, the books themselves do not even make such a claim. Take for instance, the many Hindu writings. Of their six most notable “sacred” texts, including the Vedas, the Laws of Manu, and the Puranas, only the section of the Vedas known as the Rig Veda claims inspiration. Similarly, the Christian Science group has led many to believe that the writings of Mary Baker Eddy are inspired. Yet, even though her writings claim special importance, they never openly claim divine inspiration (Barfield, p. 186). Why would anyone want to follow a creed book and claim it is from God when the book itself does not even make such a claim?

I repeat: the claim of inspiration at the hand of God is extremely rare. For this reason, one of the best places to begin a Bible study with someone concerning the Bible’s divine origin is with these claims of divine inspiration (cf. 2 Samuel 23:2; Acts 1:16; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; etc.). Such claims are only “pointless double-speak” if we never continue to give evidence proving that the Bible truly is a book from Almighty God.

Are there other books in the world that claim inspiration? Yes, but they are few and far between. And none of them exhibits such amazing qualities as the predictive prophecy and scientific foreknowledge that can be found in the Bible. Furthermore, the unity of the Bible and its accurate historical documentation of biblical people, places, and events is unparalleled in human history and bears testimony to the fact that the very existence of the Holy Scriptures cannot be explained in any other way except to acknowledge that they are the result of an overriding, superintending, guiding Mind.

REFERENCES

Barfield, Kenny (1997), Why the Bible is Number 1 (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers)

(<http://www.apologeticspress.org/articles/print/1760>)

A Preacher's Perspective...

by Michael Gilbert

(Note: Disdain for clothing has plagued mankind ever since God declared Adam and Eve's fig-leaves "insufficient". Too tight, too short, too revealing, too trashy, full of holes...all of these can be seen on any given Sunday in an American "worship" service. Sometimes I have wondered whether God or the naked human body was being worshiped. The following article is very timely - Michael)

Propriety in Dress

by Mack Lyon

A spirit of awe and reverence should dictate propriety in dress and demeanor when worshipping.

"No shirt, no shoes, no judge" headlines an article in Oklahoma's largest newspaper, *The Daily Oklahoman*, June 10, 1994. I could not believe what I was seeing! Garfield County Court officials had agreed something had to be done; some people (even some jurors) were appearing in court "all but undressed." So they posted a sign that said "Proper dress required for court appearances. No shorts, tank tops, hats, etc, allowed. Shoes required."

What has happened to the human race? Have we no self-respect at all anymore? People appear in public everywhere un-bathed, unwashed, uncombed, unshaven, untrimmed, unshod, even undressed and generally unkempt with no apparent shame at all! Are there no such words as self respect and propriety in our vocabulary? Is there nothing venerable or sacred in our society? Is nothing inappropriate? Or immodest?

That same week I had three requests from our TV audiences to have a program about how to dress for worship. More recently a judge in Florida told a plaintiff he could not appear in his court wearing shorts. The man left and returned wearing nothing! The judge sentenced him to the maximum jail term for contempt.

Exhortations to propriety in dress for worship have appeared in many church bulletins this summer. It is not uncommon to see a sign in a

restaurant that says, "No shirt, no shoes, no service." Hospitals have been forced to post similar signs. How long will it be until the church will be forced to do likewise?

Oh! But we're reminded, "The Lord seeth not as a man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (Sam. 16:7). No passage in the Bible is more badly misused and abused than that verse in 1 Sam. 16. It is taken out of context and used as a proof-text for something God never said and to endorse a state of decadence God must abhor. Shorts, tank tops and T-shirts advertising beer and beer taverns are as inappropriate in the worship of the most high God as a tuxedo would be at the beach or on the tennis courts or at worship. We are not talking about the dress of the poor or the unconverted. Some of the worst violators are professional and business people who know how to dress for success, and gladly do it, but not to show respect and reverence for God!

No, God does not have a dress code for worship! Of course, He does not. He assumes the humble, worshipping heart will dictate proper attire and behavior. A true spirit of awe, reverence and worship dictates dignity and propriety in dress and demeanor. God does not command us to kneel or stand or bow our heads in prayer, either, but doing so manifests a humbleness of heart that honors and respects the sovereign God Whom we praise and petition. So does proper dress.

"Holy and reverend is His name" (Psa. 111:9), and we must treat Him so. It is an attitude! It is a despicable irreverent, glib and flippant attitude we have developed toward God and sacred things that border on contempt, Oh! We must have more teaching and preaching on some things! No, not about "dress code" but about the spirit of true worship that will change the slovenly ways we worship. What a loss! What a terrible and tragic loss of human dignity and reverence of deity we have experienced.

But then, when we reduced our worship to the level of mere entertainment, what else could we expect? May God forgive us and help us! "let us have grace, whereby we may offer service well pleasing to God with reverence and awe: for our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:28-29).