

**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 5:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
69 CR 3204

DeKalb, TX 75559

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 (2-3-08)

B.C. – 30

A.M. – 58

P.M. – 32

Wed. - 38

Offering – \$1,510

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; DeWayne Garner; Joey Almaraz;
Kellie Fletcher

Prayer List

- ***Homer Batchelor** (cancer free, but is having problems with a hernia)
- ***Bill Hawkins** (cancer surgery on Feb. 26th)
- ***Pat Davis** (continue to remember him in your prayers)
- ***Katie Gilbert & family** (her sister was just diagnosed with brain tumor and her grandmother past away yesterday; Michael's sister-in-law)
- ***Dewayne Garner** (car wreck - at home, but has broken bones in foot and is badly bruised)
- ***Ophelia Walraven** (has been battling the shingles)
- ***Bobby Batchelor, Jr.** (should be home this weekend, please remember him and Lori)
- ***Jo Hawkins' grandkids** (all 3) have been sick this week.

Announcements

- ***Anniversary:** Jeffery's (14th) and Alvarado's (14th)
- ***Ladies' Bible Class** today @ 4pm.
- ***Bible Bowl** tomorrow night @ 7pm. We will be hosting this month's Bible Bowl - those wishing to assist in set-up/serving tonight, please sign-up before you leave today. Please bring your cookies/bars by tonight as well. **Also, the whole congregation is invited to support the kids in the Bible bowl.** It takes about 40 minutes to get to the N. Jefferson church of Christ from here. While the kids are taking the test, Michael will have a 20-minute lesson for the adults, then Buddy Ray will have a 20-minute lesson for the kids while the tests are being graded. Hope you can attend!
- ***Devotional @ Sunny Acres** next Sunday at 3PM.
- ***Birthday Party @ Sunny Acres** next Wednesday at 2 PM. Please sign up to bring a cake.

Brotherhood Events(see bulletin board for flyers)

- *We have a **Gospel Meeting** planned for Feb. 24-27 with David Williams of Nashville, AR!
- ***Bible Bowl of Northeast Texas** - Feb. 11th @ 7pm. (Matt. 17-20).
- ***Holding to the Traditions** meeting @ Murfreesboro, AR, Sat., Feb. 23rd, 9am
- ***Ladies' Day @ Blodgett**, March 29th, "Swept Away in Kingdom Living"

DeKalb Digest

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February 10, 2008

Privileged To Serve...

February 10th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Dickie Dalby

Song Leader (AM / PM)...Parker Turner/Alex Evans

Lord's Table.... Giles Feazel, Mitchell Weeks, Craig Loe

Scripture Reading

Communion.....Michael Gilbert (Mark 14:22-25)

Sermon.....Charles Lee (Acts 2:38)

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....Buddy Ray

Closing.....Doyle Raney

AM Sermon: 3 Things Baptism Can Do...

PM Sermon: 7 Marks of the Born Again

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:16). 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 two elders: Dickie Dalby 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**

*"And hereby do we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments"
(1 Jn. 2:3)*

Jesus once said, "Why call ye me, 'Lord, Lord', and do not the things which I say?" (Lk. 6:46). Poignant question. A familiar complaint of those who despise Christian teaching is that "Christians" don't act like Christians! It is a sad commentary on the condition of the Lord's family when the ungodly are more aware of the expected behavior of God's people than the Christians are.

Of course, the issue is not unique to the New Testament times. Israel's historical saga is replete with seasons of rebellion and repentance - so much so that the Psalmist prayed: "That the generation to come...might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments: and might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God. (Ps. 78:6-8).

The emphasis by John in his first epistle, however, is not on the reasons for willful disobedience, but on the results of willful obedience.

*Walking in the "light" ensures fellowship (1:7)

*Constant and willing obedience produces an effective prayer life (3:22)

*Loving God produces obedience, which in turn brings joy in that obedience (5:3)

Our deeds *show* whom we serve (3:7). Our righteous deeds *prove* whom we serve (Mt. 7:16-20). (adapted)

Salvation: The Benefits of Baptism

Preston Silcox

Most of our denominational friends and neighbors downplay the significance of baptism. This is not to say that they place no emphasis at all on the act. They say that it's important, that Christ commands it, and that it's symbolically related to one's relationship with God. Still, they stress that baptism is not essential to salvation. The Bible however lists several spiritual benefits of baptism, all of which point to the act's being necessary for salvation. Notice some of the benefits.

Baptism saves.

I Peter 3:21 plainly says, "*The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*" Similarly, Jesus said, "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*" (Mark 16:16).

Baptism washes away sin.

Notice Acts 22:16: "*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*" Since the blood of Christ is the cleansing agent (cf. Rev. 1:5), it seems obvious that one contacts His blood in the watery grave of baptism (cf. Rom. 6:3-4).

Baptism remits sin.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter announced, "*Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins*" (Acts 2:38). This remission is a release, or dismissal, from the debt into which sin places every guilty soul (cf. Rom. 3:23; 6:23).

Baptism puts one into Christ.

Consider two passages: 1) Romans 6:3 - "*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*" 2) Galatians 3:27 - "*For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*" Bear in mind that all spiritual blessings are in Christ (cf. Eph. 1:3), including salvation (cf. II Tim. 2:10).

Baptism stands a the door of entrance into the church.

Remember that I Peter 3:21 and Mark 16:16 teach that one is saved at baptism. Place Acts 2:47b alongside these verses: "And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." When one is saved at the point of baptism, then, the Lord adds him to His church.

Summarizing the above observations, without baptism:

- 1) *One is not saved*
- 2) *Sin continues to pollute one's soul.*
- 3) *One continues in the spiritual debt caused by sin.*
- 4) *One is outside of Christ.*
- 5) *One is not a part of Christ's church.*

In light of such, can there be any doubt as to the essential nature of baptism?

Baptism Cannot...

I. Save A Person Who Believes They Are Already Saved

- A. This would go against the purpose of baptism (Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
- B. You can't be baptized properly if you were taught wrong (Acts 19:1-5)

II. Save A Person Who Remains In Sin

- A. This truth is seen in the ministry of John the Baptizer (Luke 3:3-14)
- B. Repentance of all sin has always preceded a relationship with God the Father (Jn. 4:18; Mt. 19:16-22; Acts 26:24-28)

III. Save A Person Who Knows Nothing Of The Kingdom

- A. B/C of the existence of many counterfeit Christians (Luke 6:46; Mt. 7:21-23)
 1. We must know, at our baptism, what group teaches truth & who teaches error
- B. The apostles & prophets preached 2 things: the kingdom & authority of Christ (Acts 8:12)
 1. Paul preached the kingdom & authority of Christ (Eph. 1:20-23)
 2. James preached the kingdom & authority of Christ (Jms. 2:5; 1:22)

IV. Remove Temptation From Your Life

- A. There are too many warnings against apostasy that are directed toward baptized believers in the NT. (2 Tm. 4:1-4; 2 Pt. 2:1-2; Heb. 12:1-2)
- B. You & I, as Christians, have a responsibility to overcome temptation (Titus 2:11-13)

V. Replace A Faithful Life

- A. We have been created in Christ for good works (Eph. 2:10)
- B. We must worship God (Heb. 10:24-25)
- C. Baptism is only the beginning of our walk with Christ (2 Cor. 5:17)

However, Baptism Can...

I. Take Us From a Sinful World to a Righteous World (1 Pt. 3:21)

- A. A Noble Lifestyle (1 Cor. 6:11)
- B. Noble Treatment of Fellow Citizens (Mt. 25:40)
- C. A Noble Calling (Phil. 3:14)

II. Save Us (Mk. 16:16)

- A. It washes away our sin (Acts 22:16)
- B. In baptism, we contact Jesus' cleansing blood (Rom. 6:3-4)
- C. Baptism is the point at which we are united with Christ (2 Tm. 2:10; Gal. 3:27)

III. Place Us into the Church of the Bible (1 Cor. 12:13)

- A. It is a Christ promised church (Mt. 16:18)
- B. It is a Christ built church (Acts 2:37, 47; Eph. 2:19-21)
- C. It is a Christ promoting church (1 Cor. 2:2)