

**DeKalb Church  
of Christ**

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

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**Schedule of  
Services**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 6:00

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:00

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**Preacher**

Michael Gilbert  
69 CR 3204

DeKalb, TX 75559

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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)

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**Record (11-28-07)**

B.C. – 32

A.M. – 49

P.M. – 40

Wed. - 35

Offering – \$1,714

Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

**News & Notes**

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

\*Neta Walraven's sister had a stroke & heart attack last Thursday.

\*The mother-in-law of Paula Booth's nephew has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

\*Earl Orr (recovering from back surgery; brother of Francis Ramsey)

\*June Tice (in St. Michael's hospital)

\*Jean Jagers (would like calls and visits...she hasn't been feeling well lately and is scheduled for an MRI on Dec. 14th)

\*Bessie Daniel is looking for someone to stay with her to cook, clean, and do household chores...she is losing her current help. If you know of anyone looking for this type of work...contact sister Bessie.

**Announcements**

\*Remember the "special donation" for Boles Children's Home. It can be carried to them when the candy is carried to them.

\*Remember to make "homemade" candy for Boles Children's Home, which will be carried to them in the near future.

\*Singing Practice Today @ 5PM

\*Bible Bowl - study Matthew (chps. 9-12) for the December 10th competition.

\*Ladies Bible Class Wednesday @ 10 AM.

**Brotherhood Events** (see bulletin board for flyers)

\*Creation/Evolution Seminar with Dr. Brad Harrub @ Fouke Community Center, Dec. 7-9, see flyer for details.

**DeKalb Digest**

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http://dekalbcoc.wordpress.com

December 2, 2007

**Privileged To Serve...**

**December 2nd**

Announcements & 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer.... Buddy Ray

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

Lord's Table.... Giles Feazel, Dickie Dalby, Mitchell Weeks

Scripture Reading (Communion): Michael Gilbert

Scripture Reading (Sermon): Charles Lee (Acts 8:22)

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....Pat Davis

Closing..... Benny Booth

AM Sermon: God's Second Law of Pardon

PM Sermon: Prov. 6:16-19 - Hands That Shed Innocent Blood

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**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 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**

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"And when He was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto Him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? And who gave thee this authority?" (Matt. 21:23)

What governs your life? This is a basic question, yet one that America doesn't take seriously anymore. In our text, Jewish leaders asked Jesus the question, "By what authority doest thou these things?". Let's make application to us today...

Is your life governed by popularity...or, to be more specific, the desire to be popular? John wrote of some chief Jewish rulers that "they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (Jn. 12:42-43). Oh, dear Christian friends, if this attitude is present in your heart, then heed the sage advice of Paul. He wrote, "For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Gal. 1:10).

When the life of a Christian is governed by the desire to be popular, rather than by the Word of God, some bad things can happen. We become tempted to put friendships above principles, job positions above our salvation, and familial relationships above God's law.

What a sad life...being governed by the desire to be popular! Would it not be better to recognize God's Holy Word as our standard in life (2 Tim. 3:16-17)?

# *What Must I Do To Be Saved?*

by Bob Prichard

We can ask no more important question than “What must I do to be saved?” Each of us will one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, and we are responsible for obeying the Lord. Salvation has two parts: God’s part, and man’s part. God, because of His great love for mankind, has done His part in sending Christ to die for the sins of men. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Paul calls this “grace” the gift of God. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8). Paul reminds us that we cannot save ourselves and must rely on God “through faith.” “Through faith” means that man must also do his part, because no one benefits from a gift until he receives it.

To find what man’s part in the plan of salvation involves, one must go to the right place. The book of Acts explains God’s plan of salvation through several examples of conversion. There are nine specific accounts of conversion in Acts: The conversion of the Jews on Pentecost, chapter 2; the Samaritans, chapter 8; the Ethiopian eunuch, chapter 8; Saul of Tarsus, chapters 9 and 22; Cornelius, chapter 10; Lydia, chapter 16; the Philippian jailer, chapter 16; the Corinthians, chapter 18; the Ephesians, chapter 19. In each example, certain common actions, or steps of obedience, were taken by those who became Christians.

Upon hearing the pure Gospel message, each believed in Jesus as the Son of God. Though the text does not explicitly mention belief each time, it is implied. The Jews at Pentecost, having heard the message, “were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). Their question, “What shall we do?” showed that they believed, but realized that they needed to do more than have simple belief to obtain salvation. James wrote, “Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only” (2:24).

Following their confession of faith in Christ, Peter told the Jews at Pentecost, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38). Thus we understand that repentance must accompany faith in Christ.

One must also confess faith in Christ, as the Ethiopian did (Acts 8), because Christ will not confess us unless we are willing to confess Him. “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 10:32-33).

Baptism is the only step toward salvation explicitly mentioned in every conversion account. Each of the accounts of conversion in Acts shows that baptism is necessary for obedience to Christ. Hearing the Gospel message, believing in Christ, repenting of past sins, confessing Christ, and being baptized into Christ makes one a Christian, and brings salvation. Then one must serve the Lord faithfully (Rev. 2:10).

## *Who Were the Pharisees?*

by Bob Prichard

“Woe unto you, scribes, Pharisees, hypocrites!” (Matthew 23:13). It seems that the word hypocrite is almost a synonym for Pharisee, because the members of this Jewish sect seemed to always be in conflict with Jesus and the disciples. But there was much more to being a Pharisee than being a haughty hypocrite. They emerged from persecution about two hundred years before Christ, emphasizing the importance of keeping the law and traditions. Their number included Simeon, who held the baby Jesus, Zacharias, Gamaliel, Nicodemus, and Saul of Tarsus.

Pharisees were considered the strictest sect of the Jews because each member had taken a pledge to devote his life to keeping every point of the law. Because of their piety, they were generally well-respected by the people. Jesus acknowledged, “The scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat” (Mt. 23:2). Many were also scribes (men with official status who had been formally trained in rabbinic law), so the scribes and Pharisees are often mentioned together.

While their devotion to the law and to the traditions about the law made them zealous students of the Torah (books of Moses) and the prophets, many became legalists concerning their traditions. It was in their traditions that they strayed most from God’s will.

Their greatest conflicts with Christ came in two areas. First, while the Pharisees often ignored the plain meaning of the Scripture when it conflicted with the teaching of the rabbis, Jesus held to a strict interpretation of the Scriptures. For example, the Pharisees allowed many grounds for divorce, but Jesus restricted divorce to the one ground of adultery (Mt. 19:3-9). And Jesus defended His healing on the Sabbath as correct, “the sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath” (Mark 2:27), even though this conflicted with the Sabbath prohibitions of the Pharisaic rabbis.

Second, Jesus called for a much higher standard of righteous living that truly came from the heart, applying the Scriptures to real life. The Pharisees were so tied to “keeping the rules” of their traditions that they thought they could attain righteousness by all of their elaborate rituals concerning cleanliness, tithing, and prayer, with little concern for the inner man. For this reason, Jesus told them, “Ye are like unto whited sepulchres [whitewashed tombs], which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness” (Mt. 23:27). While traditions are important, they cannot replace the authority of Scripture.