

**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  
903-701-6700  
gilbertfamily2000@  
gmail.com

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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 (12-23-07)**

B.C. – 23  
A.M. – 65  
P.M. – 30  
Wed. - 19  
Offering – \$2,181  
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**

- \*John Loe (will undergo corrective surgery on Jan. 11)
- \*Neta Walraven's sister has moved to Sunny Acres.
- \*Gerald Dalby (in St. Michael's with terminal lung cancer)
- \*Ed Moore (in Dallas hsp. with pneumonia; friend of the Dalby's)
- \*Billy Gilbert (battling cancer; Michael's uncle)
- \*Gary Williams (battling cancer; Michael's uncle)

**Announcements**

- \*Birthdays: Charles Lee (12-31)!
- \*Anniversaries: Craig & Kassie (12-31)!
- \*Singing Practice Today @ 5PM
- \*Tonight's service time is **regular time (6:00pm)**. We normally change our times of service on 5th Sunday's, but not today.
- \*The congregation is invited to the **Dalby's house tomorrow evening for a New Year's Eve congregational fellowship.**
- \***Bible Bowl** - study Matthew (chps. 13-16) for January's competition. We will be hosting the Bible Bowl in February. More details to follow in January.
- \***Ladies Bible Class** will resume Wednesday, Jan. 16th @ 10 AM.

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

- \*Bible Bowl of Northeast Texas - Jan. 14th @ 7pm. (Matt. 13-16).
- \*We have a Gospel Meeting planned for Feb. 24-27 with David Williams of Nashville, AR!
- \*Teacher's Workshop (for ladies' only) @ N. Jefferson congregation, Jan. 28th (9am - 3pm, lunch will be served).

**DeKalb Digest**

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December 30, 2007

**Privileged To Serve...**

**December 30th**

**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):** Seth Salinas (Phil. 3:12-14)

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....Doyle Raney

Closing..... Parker Turner

**AM Sermon:** Looking Forward To 2008

**PM Sermon:** Feet Swiftly Running to Mischief

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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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*"But seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and his righteousness; and all these  
things shall be added unto you"*

(Matt. 6:33)

What a challenge! Christianity is not for the spiritually lazy! We must "seek" something to be found faithful. This idea reminds me of Paul's words to the young preacher Timothy, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of Truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). The word "study" in this passage means "give diligence". "Seeking" and "giving diligence" are closely akin!

Jesus asks us to seek first the kingdom of God. Therefore, the kingdom of God comes before any earthly endeavor...before our jobs, before our family, before our recreation, before our hobbies. We should treasure the moment we were "translated into the kingdom of his dear Son" by virtue of our baptism (Col. 1:13; Gal. 3:27). Lest anyone misunderstand what the kingdom is, let me say that the kingdom of God is the people of God - Christians! The kingdom is here...present, active, and vibrant in today's world (see Acts 2 concerning the establishment of the kingdom).

Seeking His righteousness means to seek out answers for your life from the Bible, His inspired word (compare 1 Jn. 2:29 & Ps. 119:172). This cannot be accomplished while our Bibles are laying on the coffee table, dusty, or even lost (see 2 Kgs 22)! If we seek these two things, God will provide all we need to live on this earth! Praise Him!

## ***Traveling Library***

by Paul Sain

Historians have related the story of Abdul Kassem Ismael, who lived in the tenth century, and was a scholarly high-ranking official of Persia. He had a library of 117,000 volumes.

On his many travels as a warrior and statesman, he never parted with his books. They were carried about by 400 camels that were trained to walk in alphabetical order. His camel-driver librarians could put their hands on any book their master requested. This leader valued his books very highly.

We have God's Word. It is more valuable than all the other books ever written. It contains the will of God for all mankind; the directions for our life to help us reach the heavenly prepared mansion. Do you regularly partake of the vast wealth of truth contained in this wonderful book of God?

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## ***Just Who Are The Chosen People Of God?***

by I.D. Byars

For some fifteen hundred years, the children of Israel were blessed as being "God's chosen people." The Messiah was to descend through these people and set up His Kingdom for them, which He did, but they would not accept Him. Jesus told the Jews: "Therefore I say unto you, the kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth fruit thereof (Matt. 21:43). Paul, writing to some of the Jews who had accepted Christ and were Christians, said: "For ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews: who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men" (1 Thess. 2:14-15). And Peter leveled this against the Jews: "But ye denied the Holy One and Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; and killed the Prince of Life, who God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses" (Acts 3:14, 15).

So they Jews, in rejecting Christ, were "cut off" (Rom. 11:20). Through their fall, salvation came to the Gentiles (Rom. 11:11). Everyone today, Jew and Gentile, all who accepts Christ and is baptized into Him, become members of God's family, they are all ONE in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:26-29). Peter, saying to those who had heard the gospel, believed it, had repented of their sins, had confessed Christ as the Son of God, and then had been baptized into Christ, "...ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people..." (1 Peter 2:9). God's people are in His church, for He adds those who are saved to HIS CHURCH (Acts 2:47). The church being His family, the body of Christ. Therefore, "Christians are God's chosen people" today.

## ***Learn From the Past, But Don't Live There***

By Lance Cordle

There may have been a time when you could have reacted differently in a situation by being more calm and reasonable ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you could have made better decisions, decisions that would have kept you away from bad things and bad people ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you could have guided your children a little better, keeping them closer to Godly influence ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you were faced with great temptation and you could have made a decision that would have kept you out of sin then, and possibly more sin later ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you were given an opportunity to become more active in the work of the church ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you could have spoken a word for Jesus to a friend, to a neighbor, and possibly won a soul ... But you didn't.

There may have been a time when you could have shown more respect to your parents and honored them with your obedience ... But you didn't.

The year is slipping from our grasp. Only a few days remain within it. Some of us are looking back, evaluating and reassessing our triumphs and failures. The failures may loom large. Though consequences may linger, let me assure you that failures do not have to be final. As long as we have breath, we can seek forgiveness for failures and gain strength to move forward. If you find yourself as one without Christ, your steps forward must begin with the acceptance of Jesus through the gospel (Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38,39; 2 Thessalonians 1:8). If you are a Christian, repentance is needful for you to move forward (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9). One thing is to be remembered: God and others are quicker to forgive us than we are to forgive ourselves. Seek and accept forgiveness; forgive yourself; move on.

*"Brothers, I do not count myself to have laid hold, but I do one thing: forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are ahead, I press toward the goal, toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14, McCord).*