


Topic:
Text:

THE MESSENGER



“This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.” I John 1:5

Volume 4

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Issue 4

Southland Area Church of Christ

www.southlandareacoc.com

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Minister: Robert Webster : (708) 752-5589 (robster67@gmail.com)

Secretary: Sis. Erica Dockens –312-399-4958 (efdockens@yahoo.com)

Schedule of Services

Sunday	Wednesday
Bible Class.....10 a.m.	Bible Study7:00 p.m.
Worship11 a.m.	Prayer Meeting (Last Wed. each month @ 7 pm)

WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord’s body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord’s church, we would be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible correspondence course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone would be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible Study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor’s card and place it in the collection tray.

What Must I Do to be Saved?

HEAR the Gospel of Christ: Rom. 1:16; 10:17

BELIEVE in Jesus: John 8:24

REPENT of your sins: Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

CONFESS your faith in Jesus Christ: Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10

BE BAPTIZED for the forgiveness of sins: Acts 2:38; 22:16

REMAIN FAITHFUL until death: Rev. 2:10

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Christianity Revised!

The book of Galatians was written to a group of churches (Gal. 1:2) in the region of Galatia. Paul planted these congregations that were comprised of Jewish and Gentile members, which all seemed to have had the same problems, hence the relevance of the epistle to all of them. In his letter, Paul sought to address the problem of false teachings (Gal. 1:6-9). There were some Jewish Christians who were insisting that the Gentile brethren needed to keep the Law of Moses to be saved, in particular the law of circumcision (Gal. 6:15). These Jewish members wanted to present their own version of New Testament...a revised version.

Our culture glorifies one who is innovative, creative and entrepreneurial. These Judaizing members must have seen themselves in that light. However, while these are excellent qualities to possess, they must never be used to subvert or violate God's laws. This was a major downfall for Jeroboam. He was the first king of divided Israel. In 1 Kings 14:9, the prophet Ahijah clearly stated the sins of Jeroboam: *"You have done more evil than all who lived before you. You have made for yourself other gods, idols made of metal; you have aroused my anger and turned your back on God."* Jeroboam's sin was idolatry. He revised Israel's worship.

Having control over the northern part of the divided kingdom, Jeroboam ceased all pilgrimages to Jerusalem: *"It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." One [golden calf] he set up in Bethel, and the other in Dan. And this thing became a sin; the people came to worship the one at Bethel and went as far as Dan to worship the other"* (1 Kings 12:28–30). In addition to sacrificing to these two golden calves, Jeroboam *"built shrines on high places and appointed priests from all sorts of people, even though they were not Levites"* (1 Kings 12:31). What God had instituted for Israel was designed for them to focus on Him with the sacrifices, holy days and worship at Jerusalem. However, Jeroboam presented an amended version that was designed to bring him glory and comfort, and convenience for the people. He revised the place of worship from Jerusalem to the cities of Dan and Bethel. (cf. 2 Chron. 6:6).

Like Jeroboam and the Jewish members of the Galatian congregations, to this day, men continue on an unrelenting path to revise or change what God has handed down to us. Our God has made it explicitly clear that there should be no alteration of His word neither by adding nor by subtracting from it (Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6; Rev. 22:18-19), all of which will cost us our souls. Our quest, therefore, should not be to revise 1st century Christianity but to continue it by accepting God's word as it is. It is clear then, that God does not want a replica (that which looks similar but is not the same) but a continuation of New Testament worship. He will accept nothing more or nothing less!

Bro. Webster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have improved our website which has a new address : www.southlandareacoc.com. While we are still working on it, everyone can go check it out in the meantime and send your feedback to Bro. Webster.

One of Bro. Webster's nieces died suddenly this past Tuesday in Jamaica. Please pray for her mother (my sister) and the rest of the family.

Today is Bro. Billy Shaw's last day with us as he is set to join his wife and son who moved back to Texas this past week. We wish this young family God's blessings in all their endeavors.

As a congregation, positioning ourselves financially and otherwise continues to be a top priority for us as we plan towards having our own facility. We therefore ask every member to pray for God's blessings upon on plans.

We need volunteers to teach Sunday School. If interested, please see Sis. Webster.

Sisters Carter and Webster had a great time at the Ladies retreat in Texas. Pictures they took can be viewed on the website in the Members page.

If you did not see your birthday or anniversary mentioned in the bulletin, please let Sis. Erica Dockens know.

Prayers needed: Sis. Ursula Ware, Laurene Cunningham, Sis. Sandra Mutlab, Sis. Herschenia Brown, Sis. Doris Davis, Bro. Robert Davis, Bro. Craig Conner .

Our College Students

Paris Mickles -SIU
Darren Jackson -SIU
Bria Gamble Illinois State

College Graduate:

Denee Webster U of I (Urbana/Champaign) graduates on May 11, 2019

Out of Town: Sis. Helen McGee will be away for two weeks.



Paris Mickles—Thur. 2nd
Liz Shelton—Fri. 3rd

Order of Service

- Song
- Announcement
- Song
- Opening Prayer
- Song
- Scripture Reading
- Song
- Sermon
- Song
- Lord's Supper
- Offering
- Song
- Closing Prayer

Last Week's Record

Sun. AM	Class	26
Sun. AM	Worship	65
	Contribution	\$3486
Wed. Bible	Class	18