

**For The Record**

Bible Study.....74  
Worship A.M. ....107  
Worship P.M. .... 50  
Wednesday.....36  
Contribution.....\$1301  
Budget. .... \$1700

**Sermons**

A.M. Caleb’s Address  
P.M. Signs Along The Road

**Mark Your Calendar**

Nov. 22 M.E.P. Team #2  
Nov. 29 Young men To Conduct A.M.  
Worship  
Dec. 12 Holiday Dinner  
Dec. 29 Area Church Leaders and  
Wives Dinner @ Bremen  
Feb. 5-7 9th Annual Winter Lectureship

**November Assignments**

Announcements. . . . . Kiley Fordham  
Communion. . . . . Bud Benefield  
Wednesday Singing. . . . Bud Benefield  
Clean Building  
Cathy and Ken Lovvorn

**Good News Today Monday - Friday**

Dish Network Channel 9407 and 9396 @ Noon ET  
Gospel Broadcasting Network  
www.gbntv.org

**Plan of Salvation**

**Hear** - (Rom. 10:14) “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”

**Believe** - (John 8:24) “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”

**Repent** - (Luke 13:3) “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”

**Confess** - (Rom. 10:9) “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

**Be Baptized** - (Acts 2:38) “Then Peter said unto them, 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.”

**Be Faithful** - (Rev. 2:10) “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

www.bowdonchurchofchrist.com



**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

Bible Study 10:00  
Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**SHEPHERDS**

Bill Dedmon  
James Harrington  
Donnie Truett

**DEACONS**

Bud Benefield  
Phil Harrington  
Gerald Scales

**MINISTER**

Bill Dedmon  
Office: (770) 258-7974  
House: (770) 258-7829  
Cell : (678) 378-1348  
Email:  
bowdoncc@bellsouth.net

**OUTREACH**

Ken Lovvorn

**YOUTH DIRECTOR**

Jerome Thompson

**MISSIONS**

Roger Leonard  
Corinto, Nicaragua  
Gospel Broadcasting Network



**The Gospel Light**

*"To give light to them that sit in darkness..." Luke 1:79*

Published by the **Bowdon Church of Christ**  
816 E. College Street Bowdon, GA 30108  
Editor—Bill Dedmon

**Vol. XX November 15, 2009 Number 42**



*“And Caleb stilled the people*

*before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.”*

Numbers 13:30

## Can a Christian Ever Be Lost?

According to the New Hampshire Confession of Faith of 1833, "Only real believers endure unto the end, that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from mere profession; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation." This creed, commonly known as the Doctrine of Once Saved Always Saved, is generally taught by a large number of Denominations in our land, yet it is not found in Scripture.

One of the plainest instances of this fact in the Bible is the incident of Simon the Sorcerer found in Acts chapter eight. In this passage, Philip the evangelist traveled to Samaria to preach the gospel. Those who heard him believed and were baptized. Among these was Simon (Acts 8:13). When the Apostles later came down from Jerusalem to lay hands on the believers in order to enable them to do miraculous gifts, Simon saw this power and was tempted. When he offered money to Peter, he was rebuked when Peter said, "You have no part or portion in this matter..." (Acts 8:21). Seeing his lost condition, Simon asked Peter to pray for him so that he might be restored.

Here we have an example in the Scriptures of one who received salvation, was captivated to sin and then was restored again. Yet those who teach the doctrine of once saved always saved say this cannot be true.

Some say that those who fall away were never truly saved in the first place. That is, he had a deceiving spirit that never truly allowed them to believe and obey from the heart. But Scripture says that Simon believed and was baptized. Notice that either the inspired Scripture is mistaken that Simon believed or the doctrine of once saved always saved is mistaken on this point! Others say that while a Christian may do wrong and not live up to what he should, once he is saved he can never sin enough to lose his place in the Kingdom. Yet Peter (inspired by the Spirit) told the sinning Simon, "You have neither part nor portion in this matter." Either Peter was mistaken concerning the consequences of Simon's sin or the doctrine of once saved always saved is wrong.

Other proponents of once saved always saved say that without their doctrine life is not worth living. They claim that those who teach that the Christian must always remain faithful are overly judgmental and always doubting even their own salvation. But notice that Peter was not out trying to get somebody, he was pointing out the consequences of Simon's sin so that he could repent. In the same way, those who understand God's command to remain faithful lead ourselves and others to be sure that we do not fall from grace, Galatians 5:4.

- Mark Ray

Mark preaches for the Siwell Road Church of Christ in Jackson, MS



Welcome to our visitors. You are our special guests. We trust the worship service today will be uplifting and in harmony with God's word.

### Sunday Morning Devotion

November 15

Song - Casey Ballard

Scripture and Prayer - Matt Smith

November 22

Song - Kiley Fordham

Scripture and Prayer - David Glosson

### Wednesday Night Devotional

November 18

Song - Bud Benefield

Devotional - Bill Dedmon

Announcements - Bill Dedmon

This coming Sunday, November 22nd, is the Thanksgiving Appeal for Georgia AGAPE. Every family is encouraged to come prepared to participate in the special collection to support the work of this ministry. AGAPE depends upon us for a great response.



Our family and Friends Day was a huge success. We had 107 in attendance for the morning worship hour. A special thanks to Jerome Thompson for the outstanding lesson during the Bible Class hour.



Please make these changes to your directory for Bud Benefield:

Cell Phone - (770) 550-3845

Email - jbb805@bellsouth.net



Owen Thompson had tubes put in his ears Thursday morning; **Billie Nolen**; **Jason Fordham**, Kiley's brother, will be going to Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center for further evaluation; **Claude Price**, Bill's brother-in-law; **Judy Lovvorn**; **Edie Anderson**; **Brooke Harris**, friend of Bill Nolen; **Gracie Gibbs**, 6 yr old friend of Sherry Scales; **Cindy Carnes**; **Linda Bracknell**; **Wayne Harlin**; **Greg and Alesa Holloway**; **Beverly Nicholson**.

### Continue to remember in prayer :

**Samantha and Bryan Kirby**; **Crawford Family**; **Shannon Gifford**; **Brenda Green**; **Hope Hickman**; **Ervin Barnhill**; **Irene Harrington**; **Melinda Fendley**; **Reba Parsons**; **Ken and Cathy Lovvorn**; **April Fordham**; **Melinda Harlin**; **Phil, Aiden and Molly Astin**; **Jeff Denny**; **Ida Mae Holloway**; **Ansley Suddeth**; **Jane Newbern**; **unfaithful members**; **young people**.

### Serving in our military:

**Jason Benefield**, **Paul Wheeler**, **Toby Hill**.



The winter quarter of the GA School of Preaching and Biblical Studies, West GA Campus at Villa Rica, will begin on Monday, November 23. Patrick Gray will be teaching **The Scheme of Redemption** at 10:00 a.m. and Bill will be teaching **Denominational Doctrines** at 7:00 p.m.

*Pewpackers Class each Sunday  
night at 6:00*