

For The Record

Bible Study.....	.53
Sunday AM.....	.70
Sunday PM.....	.51
Wednesday.....	.39
Contribution.....	\$1583
Budget.....	\$1380
Over/Under YTD.....	+\$4952

Sermons

A.M. Time
P.M. Baptism

Bowdon
Church of Christ
816 E. College Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

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.”



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY
Bible Study 10:00
Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm
“Pewpackers” 5:45 P.M.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 7:00 pm

SHEPHERDS
Bill Dedmon
James Harrington
Greg Holloway
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

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

Vol. XVII December 17, 2006 Number 45



“What Hinders Me From Being Baptized?”

The Ethiopian eunuch asked this question during a Bible study somewhere in an isolated place between Jerusalem and Gaza. Philip, the evangelist, was summoned by an angel of the Lord to go to this place and help the eunuch understand the Scriptures (Acts 8:26-30). Philip preached unto him Jesus, and the eunuch’s response was, “*And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?*” (Acts 8:36).

The picture painted by Luke in Acts chapter eight is something different from what we observe today. The question, “Why can’t I be baptized?” is seldom asked. However, the question “Why should I be baptized?” is a prominent question. It is obvious that so many people today are doing their best to avoid baptism.

There are some reasons why a person would not be baptized. Some have rejected baptism, “*But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him*” (Luke 7:30).

Some find themselves being hindered by Satan. It is a fact that Satan wants to keep people from obeying the Lord, “*Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us*” (1 Thessalonians 2:18). “*And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat*” Luke 22:31). “*When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side*” (Matthew 13:19).

Uncertainty regarding age prevents some from being baptized. The question regarding the age of accountability is a most difficult one to answer. The Lord revealed the requirements for baptism. One must be old enough to believe, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, he that believeth not shall be condemned*” (Mark 16:16). Paul baptized members of the Philippian jailor’s family, but it is obvious they were old enough to believe. “*And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. and they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway*” (Acts 16:31-33).

A lack of understanding the purpose of baptism will hinder one from being baptized. “*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*” (Acts 2:38). If someone is void of understanding that salvation is dependant upon baptism, then they will not see the need to be baptized. It is unfortunate that so much error is taught concerning this important matter. Men say, there is no need, you are saved prior to baptism. The Bible however says, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*” (Mark 16:16).

It is tragic when one is hindered from obeying God’s command. “*O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*” (Galatians 3:1). What is delaying your decision?

-Bill Dedmon 12/17/06



Welcome to the Bowdon church of Christ. We are happy you have come to worship with us today. It is our prayer that the worship service will be fulfilling and uplifting. Please fill out an attendance card.

Sunday Morning Devotional

December 17

Song - Kiley Fordham

Scripture and Prayer - Greg Holloway

December 24

Song - Zach Benefield

Scripture & Prayer - Ben Teel

Wednesday Night Devotional

December 20

Song - Phil Harrington

Devotional - Kiley Fordham

Announcements - Bill Dedmon

December 27

Song - Phil Harrington

Devotional - Jerome Thompson

Announcements - Bill Dedmon



Everyone is invited to the Dedmon’s for some old fashioned hospitality tonight, December 17, following the evening service. Finger foods will be served. “Ya’ll” come on over.

Happy New Year The annual **New Year’s Eve Get-To-gather** will be at the church building. Everyone is encouraged to make plans to stay and enjoy the company of one another as we watch the old year go out and new come in.



Bill Johnson; Irene Harrington; Susan Buchanan; Ansley Suddeth; Elsie Benefield; Ida Mae Holloway; Cecil and Eueline Warren, Kiley’s stepfather and mother; **Tim King**, stage four colon cancer; **Ruby Haney**, Samantha Wilson’s grandmother; **Travis Creel**, lung cancer, friend of Nikki Young.
Prayer for those in the military:
Chris Beal, Iraq; **Bobby Wilson**, Italy; **Seth Crawford**, Iraq. **Chris Buchanan**, Iraq; **Kevin Haney**, Afghanistan. **Jeff Clinger**, Iraq



The elders are in the process of setting the budget for 2007. Your prayers are solicited as they attempt to put the Lord’s money to the best use.



The **Ladies’ Gift Exchange** is Tuesday night, December 19, at the church building at 7:00 p.m. A list is on the bulletin board for goodies to bring.



The **Children’s Gift Exchange** will be Wednesday night, December 20, following Bible study. A food list is on the bulletin board.



Roger Russell, Bill and Billie Nolen’s son-in-law, will be speaking on Sunday morning, December 24. We are looking forward to hearing him speak.