

### This Week's Assignments

Announcements: B. Clark

#### **Sunday Morning**

Opening Prayer: S. McDearman

Song Leader: D. Conner

Reading: J. Caraway

Closing Prayer: J. Franks

*The Lord's Supper*

(L) Bread: T. Edge

(L) Contribution: C. Trahan

(L) Helper: K. Crain

(R) Fruit of the Vine: J. Richardson

(R) Helper: M. Ward

(R) Helper: C.J. Porter

Sermon: C. Willis

#### **Sunday Evening**

Opening Prayer: B. Bailey

Song Leader: J. Willis

Reading: E. Gross

Closing Prayer: B. Roane

Lord's Supper: J. Coody

Lord's Supper: H. Clark

Sermon: C. Willis

#### **Wednesday Evening**

Song Leader: B. Lovell

Speaker: C. Dunn

### **New Caney Church of Christ**

19351 FM 1485, New Caney, TX 77357  
281-399-5900

#### **Evangelists:**

*Charles Willis* (281-399-4760)

CLW@nctv.com

*Caleb Dunn* (417-258-0002)

dunn-86@hotmail.com

#### **Elders:**

*Bob Bailey* (281-689-2006)

*Ronnie Ramsey* (281-324-4647)

*Leland Wallis* (281-689-3384)

#### **Assembly Times:**

*Sunday*

Bible Classes.....9:30 a.m.

Worship...10:30 a.m. & 5 p.m.

*Wednesday*

Bible Classes.....7:30 p.m.

*Everyone is Welcome!*

## *Family Matters*

### Sick

- Barbara Wall continues to struggle with high blood pressure and pain in her neck.
- Joyce Lee and Audrey Conley are fighting cancer.
- Louise Conley, Leland Wallis, Dixie Stafford, and Gloria Bailey have ailments that prevent them from worshipping with us as often as they desire.
- Remember to pray for John Brinkley, Jo Ann Willis, the Duvalls, the Tylers, and the Roanes.

### Devotionals

- The women's devotional is this Friday (January 15<sup>th</sup>) at 7 p.m. It will be held in this building. Dana Richardson will be speaking. Ladies please make an effort to attend.
- Men's – Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m.

### Youth Bible Study

- This study is tonight at the Coody's home (about 10 miles north of here). This study happens once a month and is beneficial for the youth. Doug Conner will be leading the discussion tonight.

### Check Your Knowledge: Answers

1. Rahab (Jos 2:15-21).
2. Jezebel (2Ki 9:30, 32).
3. Eutychus (Act 20:9).
4. Michal (2Sa 6:16).
5. Damascus (2Co 11:33).
6. Abimelech, the Philistine king (Gen 26:8).

The New Caney Church of Christ:  
*Retaining the Standard of Sound Doctrine!*

# STANDING FIRM

*"Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm". Ephesians 6:13*

Volume 8

January 10, 2010

Number 2

## Set Me Free

**J**esus tells His followers that in order to be true followers of Him, they must continue in His word (Joh 8:31). In the next verse, Jesus states that "you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Let us begin by considering what holds us captive. Paul writes to the Christians in Rome, "Now having been freed from sin" (Rom 6:18, 22). What happens is we are tempted by our own lust, "Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death" (Jam 1:15). We may conclude that we are in the bondage of death after we sin. Paul uses this same imagery when he writes, "You were slaves of sin" (Rom 6:20).

The problem with living as slaves of sin is that it separates us from God. Isaiah writes to God's people, "Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have

hidden His face from you" (59:2). We should realize that sin creates a barrier between us and God so that we can no longer have a relationship with Him.

Those who do not have a relationship with God have no hope of living eternally in heaven with Him. On the day of judgment, God will say to many, "I never knew you, depart from Me you who practiced lawlessness" (Mat 7:23).

Not only can someone with sin expect to live away from God's presence eternally because of his sins, he should understand there is punishment waiting for him. Paul writes, "The Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus" (2Th 1:7-8).

When we realize that we are in this

The Church of  
Christ

Visit our new website!  
[www.newcaneychurchofchrist.org](http://www.newcaneychurchofchrist.org)

Article continued:

situation, certainly, we long to be set free. But how can we be freed from death? Paul says that Christ “abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel” (2Ti 1:10).

This brings us back to Jesus’ statement in John 8:32. It is the truth that sets us free from death. Truth corresponds to Paul’s usage of gospel in passage above (2Ti 1:10). Paul writes to the Christians in Colossae that their hope of heaven was revealed to them “in the word of truth, the gospel” (1:5). Jesus, in a prayer to God, says, “Your word is truth” (Joh 17:17). God’s word has come to us through Jesus Christ (Heb 1:1-2).

It is through the word of Christ that we can have faith and a hope of heaven. “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ” (Rom 10:17). Christ “has now reconciled you ... if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and

not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard” (Col 1:22-23).

This is why, brethren, it is essential for us to know, understand, believe, and apply the truth in our lives. Let us diligently study and accurately handle the word of truth.

-Caleb Dunn



God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape

1 Cor. 10:13

### **Remember:** **Family in the Military**

**Caleb Emerson**

**Marcus Vick**

2300 Gato St. Box #334W  
Naval Base Kitspa-Bangor  
Silverdale, WA 98315  
Cell: 936-828-6705

**John Jorgensen**

**Dave Campbell**

### **Check Your Knowledge**

Windows in the Bible

1. Who let Joshua’s spies escape through her window?
2. What Israelite queen was thrown out her window to her death?
3. Who died from falling out of a window during Paul’s sermon?
4. Who looked out her window and despised her husband, David, dancing in the street?
5. In what city did Paul escape a plot by going through a window in the city wall?
6. What king saw Jacob caressing his wife Rebekah through his window?

(Answers on back page)

## **If I Were to Die Today**

Bill Feist

All of us hope we will see the dawning of tomorrow - yet, not a single one of us can say with any degree of absolute certainty that we will. James wrote of the brevity of life, “Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit;’ whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away” (4:13-14). In light of this sobering thought, consider the possibility that death could come to you or me today. If this occurs, what happens when we die?

We can eliminate the “nothing will happen” idea, despite the atheists who insist that we are only flesh and blood beings. God dispels this humanistic view by revealing that we are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26). This means we have an eternal soul given to us by God, formed by the Almighty at the conception of life (Job 33:4; Luke 1:41). God has endowed us with an eternal soul and when we die physically the soul will return to God who gave it (Eccl. 12:7). What if we say, “I do not want these thing to happen.” The wise man penned some words that emphasize the fact that when we die we will have no control over what will happen next. “No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit and no one has power in the day of death...” (Eccl. 8:8).

Death does not end our existence, but it does end our opportunity to choose and prepare. This does not mean that there is no hope. There are things that you can do now to affect what will happen after death. In fact, there is an urgency connected to making those preparations while time is ours. “For He says, ‘In the acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.’ Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2). This verse expresses God’s desire for every single one of us. When we leave this life there will be no opportunity to make changes, only to answer for what has been done (2 Cor. 5:10).

We can, right now, while time is ours, determine where we want to dwell eternally and obey God’s will for our life. The apostles challenged those in Acts 2:40 to, “Save yourselves.” This establishes our responsibility to respond to God’s terms and conditions of pardon.

What does God demand of each one of us? We must hear the gospel (Rom. 10:17), believe the gospel (Mk. 16:15-16), repent of our sins (Acts 17:30), confess Jesus Christ before men (Matt. 10:32-33) and be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Are you prepared, if you should die today?

**THE FOOL:**

**Luke 12:20** But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?'

**Proverbs 26:11** Like a dog that returns to its vomit is a fool who repeats his folly.

**THE SAGE:**

**1 Corinthians 3:19** For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God.

**Ecclesiastes 8:5** He who keeps a royal command experiences no trouble, for a wise heart knows the proper time and procedure.