

**New Caney
Church of Christ**

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Assembly Times

Sundays
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

***Retaining The Standard
Of Sound Doctrine***

Evangelist: Charles Willis
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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. The Ephesians (Acts 19:19)
2. Samson (Judges 15:4-5)
3. The Amalekites (1 Sam. 30:1)
4. Abimelech (Judges 9:49)
5. Judah (Judges 1:8)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Corwin Richardson
Announcements: Eddie Bowen
Encouragement Talk: Todd McAdams
Opening Prayer: Kyle Crain
Scripture Reading: Billy Lovell
Philippians 1:12-20
Song Leader: Harper Flores
Table Talk: Robert McCorkle
Contribution: Josh Emerson
Helper: Theo Edge
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Lester Mabry
Helper: Chris Beard
Closing Prayer: Scott McDearman

Sunday Afternoons

Mar 12 3PM Bible Fundamentals Class
4PM Outdoor Work Day
Mar 19 5PM Singing/Member Preaches
Mar 26 Nothing
Apr 2 3-5PM Song Leader Training
(sign up for a spot with Charles)

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: John Franks
Speaker: Brad Smith



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

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A Good Name

“A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, Favor is better than silver and gold.”
Proverbs 22:1

The concept of a “good name” is about having a good reputation. What others know about us and hear about us is based on our actions and behaviors. Ruth is a great example of this. When she went to glean in the field of Boaz he said to her *“All that you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband has been fully reported to me, and how you left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and came to a people that you did not previously know. May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge.”* Then she said, *“I have found favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and indeed have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants”* (Ruth 2:11-13). The “favor” she has with Boaz is because of the way she honored and treated her mother-in-law. Her reputation was good.

Luke 2:52 tell us *“Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”* Despite what men would later say about Him falsely, in His early years He had a good reputation. Even when men worked to ruin His reputation, many rejected those efforts and believed Him because of the good He did.

The early church chose seven men *“of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom”* to see that the widows received daily food (Acts 6:3). Even Elders *“must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil”* (1 Tim. 3:7). Elders must have the good reputation that God want in every Christian. The command to every Christian is to *“keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in*

the day of visitation" (1 Peter 2:12). While reputations can be harmed by evil men who lie and spread lies through gossip, even this can be overcome as people continue to observe our good deeds. God wants every Christian to have a good name.

A good reputation comes from obeying God's Word. The more we apply His word in our life, the more people will see us behaving in godly righteousness. Where we have failed to apply God's word is where our reputation will be lacking. *"We also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad"* (2 Corinthians 5:9–10). When our ambition is not to please God, that will become our reputation. Proverbs 3:3–4 teaches, *"Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute In the sight of God and man."*

What men think of us is something we are to be concerned about, but even if our reputation is bad because of our faith, then we are to *"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven"* (Matthew 5:16). Consider carefully your own reputation and the actions that have created it. Then consider the teaching of Peter as a direction for our life: *"Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame. For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong"* (1 Peter 3:13–17).
by Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Fire

1. What group of converts burned their magic books?
2. Who burned the Philistines' grain by tying torches to the tails of foxes?
3. What nation burned David's city of Ziklag?
4. What judge killed about 1,000 people when he burned down the tower of Schechem?
5. What tribe of Israel sacked Jerusalem and burned it?

Answers On Back

Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



The Glory Of The Church

by Charles Willis

The Lord's Church

The Church is the *"fullness of Him who fills all in all"* (Ephesians 1:22–23). Christ is the fullness of God. Paul said *"it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in"* Christ (Colossians 1:19), and *"in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form"* (Colossians 2:9). Christ fills the church with the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19) and we are told to grow up into the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 3:14–16). It was always God's purpose to establish the church - those called out of the world to live in Christ.

The church is described as *"a building...a holy temple in the Lord"* (Ephesians 2:21). In the Old Testament the Temple was the place where God dwelt. That is the imagery conveyed in Ephesians for the New Covenant. We are being *"built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit"* (Ephesians 2:22).

Those who comprise the church are *"of God's household"* (Ephesians 2:19). The church is a family. Most people understand this imagery. God is the father (Ephesians 3:14; 1 Corinthians 8:6) and Jesus is a Son over His house (Hebrews 3:6). We become the child of God through faithful obedience to God's word, *"for you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ"* (Galatians 3:26–27).

The Church is comprised of those whose loyalty and devotion are freely given to God. We stand with Him and serve in His spiritual army. Ephesians 6:10–17 describes the *"armor of God"* which we are to put on. Paul wrote to the young evangelist, *"Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus"* (2 Timothy 2:3). Paul wrote about Epaphroditus and Archippus as *"a fellow soldier"* (Philippians 2:25; Philemon 1:2).

For all of those who serve as a part of God's holy building, who are part of His household, who stand firm as a soldier in the Lord's army - Christ is *"the Savior of the body"* (Ephesians 5:23). He gave up Himself to *"sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless"* (Ephesians 5:26–27).

When we consider the glory of Christ in the church and understand the price He paid to establish it, we should be filled with awe that God would allow us to be a part of this glory. We should be motivated to live righteously to please Him in all things. What a marvelous blessing the Lord's Church is to all who have believed and obeyed Him!