

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 281-841-5718 charleswillisNCCofC@gmail.com

Know Your Bible: Answers

- 1. Rachel (Genesis 31:19) 2. Barabbas (John 18:40) 3. Achan (Joshua 7) 4. Judas (John 12:4-6) 5. His silver cup (Genesis 44)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Eddie Bowen Announcements: Brad Smith Encouragement Talk: Josh Emerson Opening Prayer: Todd McAdams Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen Philipians 1:1-11 Song Leader: Arturo Orozco Table Talk: Brad Smith Contribution: Jacob McAdams Helper: Corwin Richardson Fruit of Vine: Ryan Haarmann Helper: Justin Thomas Helper: Sandon Spyker Closing Prayer: John Van Baale

Sunday Afternoons

Mar 5 4PM Devotionals (Men, Women, Youth) Mar 12 3PM Bible Fundamentals Class 4PM Outdoor Work Day Mar 19 5PM Singing/Member Preaches Mar 26 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Ryan Haarmann Speaker: Arturo Orozco



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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Confidence In God's Word

There are many reasons we can have great confidence in the Bible as the word of God: the simple fact that it does not contradict itself in any way speaks of a higher reasoning than man, coupled with the realization that it was written by dozens of men over hundreds of years and it is difficult to believe it is the creation of man. No reason is more compelling than it's profession of inspiration. The word 'inspiration' is literally 'God breathed' and means it comes from the mouth of God. God the Father is the author and creator of the written word and that instills great confidence in the reader.

Under the Old Law inspiration came primarily to the prophets. These were the spokesmen of God and their responsibility was to relate only what God had said, nothing more or less. 2 Peter 1:20-21 tells us that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. God operated in the lives of men to reveal His will to them. Often in the case of the Prophets, this was in the form of warnings because the chosen people of God were not abiding in the covenant given to Moses.

As Christians living under the New Covenant in Christ Jesus, we know that the majority of the New Testament was written by the apostles. The fact of their inspiration is recorded for us. Jesus told them in Matthew 10:19-20 when they deliver you up, do not become anxious about how or what you will speak; for it shall be given you in that hour what you are to speak. For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. Jesus promised the apostles that the Holy Spirit would teach them all things and give them a remembrance of everything He taught them (John 14:26). Even Paul, the apostle born out of due time, told us he spoke not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words (1 Cor. 2:13) and that the gospel he preached is not according to man, for I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ (Gal. 1:11-12).

We are told that *“all Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teachings, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work”* (2 Tim. 3:16–17). The inspiration of God is in every passage of Scripture. Originally these truths related from God were in verbal form, but as they were being written and transmitted throughout the church they bore the authority of God in that form also. *“If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord’s commandment. But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized”* (1 Cor. 14:37).

We can have great confidence in the Bible as the written word of God. Throughout the history of mankind God has related His will to us in verbal and written form so that we might be able to know how to please Him. This is true of the New Testament as well. So, when we read from our Bible we must understand it IS the word of God that come literally from His mouth. We must listen and respond in obedience to His instructions.

by Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Thieves

1. Who stole idols from her father?
2. What robber was released from prison at the time of the Passover?
3. Who was stoned for stealing booty during the battle for Jericho?
4. What disciple stole from the treasury?
5. What did Joseph accuse his brothers of stealing?

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 Church In Scripture

by Charles Willis

The Lord's Church

The word “church” means a “called out” body, a convened assembly of people. It is not just a company who have come together to share their own thoughts but a body of people called together when they hear and obey the voice of God. This word is used two ways in Scripture.

“Church” is used of the universal church - meaning all the saved people of all time. Jesus used the word this way saying *“upon this rock I will build My church”* (Matt. 16:18). This truth is also understood when Scripture says God *“put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all”* (Eph. 1:22–23, see also Col. 1:18). The universal church has no organization other than Christ is the head. It has no earthly headquarter, no hierarchy of people working within it, no central treasury to spend from. It is simply a group of people (the saved) called out of the world by God (Romans 8:29–30). His call does come as a vision, dream, whisper, or compelling. *“He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (2 Thess. 2:14).

“Church” is used of the local congregation. This is a local part of the universal church which meets together. This use in Scripture is very evident. *“I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea”* (Romans 16:1). *“To the churches of Galatia”* (Gal. 1:2 - multiple congregations). *“To the church of God which is at Corinth”* (1 Cor. 1:2). *“All the churches of Christ greet you”* (Rom. 16:16). All of these local congregations assemble together as commanded on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:25). Each congregation has the same head (Jesus, Eph. 1:22–23) who is in authority. The Law of Christ is the only authority which all members of the body follow. Scripture does show organization of the local congregation, but it is limited to the local congregation. Each congregation is autonomous from all the others. There are no individuals who have any authority over multiple congregations. There are no congregations that meet as multiple campuses. Elders are given the oversight over the congregation of which they are a part (1 Peter 5:1–3), and they must meet the qualifications given in Scripture (1 Timothy 3; Titus 1). Deacons also serve within a local congregation. They are a “special servant” to the God and the congregation. They must also meet the qualifications of Scripture (1 Timothy 3). We also see evangelists in Scripture serving within a congregation (Eph. 4:11–12; 2 Tim. 4:5; 1 Tim. 4:6, 16). These men are also under the oversight of the local Elders. Everyone else in a local congregation are called *“members”* (Rom. 12:4–5; Eph. 4:11–12, 16).

The false worldly concepts of the church are easily seen when we rely on the truth of Scripture. We do not need to know all the ways man wants to change the meaning of “church” nor how man wants to organize and operate the church. All we need to know is the truth of God - from this everything else is proven false. Hold fast in confidence to the word of God! Be a part of a local church that adheres to God’s instructions.

JAMES 1

