

**New Caney  
Church of Christ**

(physical) 19351 FM 1485  
(mail) P.O. Box 903  
New Caney, TX 77357  
281-399-5900  
www.NewCaneyChurchofChrist.org

**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. Abiathar and Zadok  
(2 Samuel 20:26)
2. Eli (1 Samuel 4:18)
3. Bells and pomegranates (Ex. 28)
4. Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18)
5. Ezekiel

**This Week's Assignments & Events**

**Sunday Worship**

Greeter: Gary Tuttle  
Announcements: Ryan Haarmann  
Encouragement Talk: Arturo Orozco  
Opening Prayer: Josh Emerson  
Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson  
Colossians 2:13-17  
Song Leader: Billy Lovell  
Table Talk: Harper Flores  
Contribution: Brad Smith  
Helper: Kyle Crain  
Fruit of Vine: Todd McAdams  
Helper: Verlin Wilson  
Helper: Sandon Spyker  
Closing Prayer: Pete Galvan

**Sunday Afternoons**

July 23 5PM Worship - Casey Thomas to preach  
July 30 3PM Men's Meeting with Elders  
3PM Children's Class Workday (quarter change)  
Aug 6 Parent Planned Youth Devotional  
Aug 13 Visitation Day

**Wednesday Evening**

Song Leader: Corwin Richardson  
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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## I Need A Vacation

Most folks like to take a vacation in the summer while the kids are out of school, and when the weather typically permits easy travel. It is nice to get away from the everyday responsibilities of work. It is nice to take a break from a regular routine. We have had a lot of our members out of town in recent weeks on vacation.

A Christian is never on vacation spiritually. The responsibilities and routines should never stop. We always serve God. We regularly read our Bible (2 Tim. 2:15) and pray (1 Thess. 5:17). We worship with the saints (Heb. 10:25). We never get a vacation because Satan is always prowling around “*like a lion, seeking someone to devour*” (1 Peter 5:8).

I am encouraged when folks are headed out of town and call me to ask if I know of a congregation in the area they are going to visit. I know many of you have adjusted travel plans and destinations to accommodate worshiping God with fellow saints.

This is appropriate because we are instructed to partake of the Lord Supper on the first day of the week, remembering our Lord's death (1 Cor. 11:23-26; Acts 20:7). We are to sing praises to encourage one another (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19). Encouraging others (and being encouraged) is part of the purpose of the corporate worship which God commands. We need to assemble with the saints whether at home or on vacation.

Some who regularly miss assembling are not out of town, but instead have adopted an attitude of taking a vacation from God. This attitude is reflective of the Israelites when they said of offering sacrifices, “*My, how tiresome it is*” (Mal. 1:13). They were offering the lame and sick animals as a sacrifice to God. They “*disdainfully sniffed at it*” and had no regard about offering God something less than their best. Their attitude was the problem.

If you are one who is tired of worshiping God, the problem is your attitude – an attitude that desires to sin. To take a break from righteousness implies a strong desire

to sin. When I go on a vacation, I want to do different things than my regular routine. I want some new experiences. It can be no different for one who desires to take a break from God. Yet what new routines and experiences can be desired except sinful ones. To stop doing the things God has commanded is sin of omission (James 4:17).

Ask yourself, “do I need a vacation from God”? Your answer will reveal much.  
By Charles Willis

### Commands To The Christian That Loves God

Present you bodies a living sacrifice to God. (Romans 12:1-2)

Love not the world. (1 John 2:15-17; 2 Corinthians 6:17)

Let brotherly love continue. (Hebrews 13:1)

Avenge not ourselves. (Romans 12:19)

Be steadfast. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Give to God as prospered. (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

Restore the lost. (Galatians 6:1)

Go & Preach the gospel. (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:20)

Keep oneself pure. (1 Timothy 5:22; James 1:27)

Seek first the kingdom of God. (Matthew 6:33)

Have no fellowship with evil. (Ephesians 5:11)

Be faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

### Know Your Bible

#### Priests

1. What two men were High Priests during David's reign?
2. What fat priest of Israel died when he heard the Ark had been captured?
3. What kinds of objects were around the hem of the priest's robe?
4. Who is the first priest mentioned in the Bible?
5. What priest, a prisoner in Babylon, was also a prophet?

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.



## Does The Bible Teach Salvation Is By Grace Or By Works?

There are many who believe we are saved by “grace only.” Most people read the Scriptures and determine we are not saved by “works only.” I know of no religious group that teaches that doctrine. The Pharisees of the time of Christ seem to be those who believe in salvation by works, and Jesus condemns them repeatedly and vehemently. The comments here will be brief, yet I think they are enough to understand what the Bible says.

There are two major passages of Scripture that deal with this subject which are often debated (if you can debate about Scripture). Romans 4 teaches Abraham was not justified by works: “*Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due*” (Romans 4:4). If we are not saved by grace, the only other possible answer is God owes us salvation because of our works. No one takes that view. This chapter goes on to point out that Abraham was chosen and blessed with promises before he was circumcised - then this was in fact a sign of his righteousness. Verse 3 gives the thrust of the entire chapter saying, “*Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.*” God considered his faith and counted it as righteousness. It was something earned, God gave him the credit.

The other passage often discussed in James 2:14–26. This also talks of Abraham's faith: “*You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected*” (James 2:22). “*You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone*” (James 2:24). Faith is unquestionably required for salvation, but Abraham was justified by works (such as sacrificing his son Isaac) which is discussed in verse 21. Many see a conflict between these two passages. One teaching salvation “by grace,” and one teaching salvation “by works.” I disagree. They teach the same principles from two different points of view, each emphasizing a different aspect of salvation.

Was Noah saved by grace or because he obeyed the word of God? We know he found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 5–9), but would God have saved him from the flood had he not been obedient in building the ark? He “*prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith*” (Heb. 11:7). He did more than simply believe in God - his faith caused him to obey. His faith and works were both involved in his salvation, as well as God's grace.

A very helpful verse on this subject is Galatians 5:6, “*For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.*” The only thing that “means anything” (or “avails” in the King James), the only thing that is of any advantage to us is *faith which works*. Both are required for salvation.

By Charles Willis