

**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***

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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Dorcas (Acts 9:36–41)
2. Elymas (Acts 13:8–11)
3. Malta (Acts 28:8–9)
4. They received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:14–17)
5. Twice (Acts 5:17–29; 12:1–17)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Eddie Bowen
Announcements: Josh Emerson
Encouragement Talk: John Franks
Opening Prayer: Arturo Orozco
Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson
1 Timothy 1:1–11
Song Leader: Ryan Haarmann
Table Talk: Billy Lovell
Contribution: Todd McAdams
Helper: Kyle Crain
Fruit of Vine: Jacob McAdams
Helper: Jonathan Lovell
Helper: Lester Mabry
Closing Prayer: Pete Galvan

Sunday Afternoons

Jan 21 Nothing
Jan 28 3PM Men's Meeting
Classroom Quarter Change
Feb 4 Gospel Meeting 3PM Worship
Feb 11 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Jacob McAdams
Speaker: Eddie Bowen



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 21
Number 3
January 21, 2024

The New Man

“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Christians are not to live like non-Christians. Our behavior, thoughts, and motivations are to be different. These differences are to be evident and observable to those around us. We do not do them to be noticed, but they are the result of the change of mind that must occur in all those who have been born again.

When Nicodemus came to Jesus at night to talk, Jesus said to him, *“unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God”* (John 3:4). In verse 6 Jesus said *“unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”* Being born again, born of water, is about baptism. Galatians 3:27 says, *“all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”* The only way into Christ (into fellowship with Christ) is through baptism. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says *“if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”* The Christian cannot live the way he used to live.

Consider the important teaching in Ephesians 4:22–24. We must *“lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.”* Laying aside the old self is about stopping sinful behaviors. We are to put on the new self which is about righteousness and holiness of the truth. In Ephesians 4, Paul refers to non-Christians as “gentiles” and he tells us in verses 17 to *“walk no longer as the Gentiles also walk”* who (in verse 19) *“have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.”*

For most who have obeyed the gospel of Jesus Christ, the priority initially is to lay aside the old self – to stop sinning. This is very important, and a proper understanding of Scripture. *“Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, and have put on*

the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him" (Colossians 3:5-10). Prior to our baptism into Christ we walked and lived in sin, now we must put them all aside and put on the new self. We are "renewed" (or made new) after the pattern of the "true knowledge" according to God. We change our behavior to what God has said. Romans 6:6 says *"our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin"*

Different from stopping sin (which we used to do), now in Christ we must "put on" or start doing some things. Colossians 3:12-14 tells us to *"put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."* There is much depth in this passage worthy of more study than can be given in this tract, and you are encouraged to examine this passage carefully.

First, we are told to *"Put on a heart of..."*, meaning we must change our heart. The way to please God in Christ is very different from the way of the world. It does not just reside in our behaviors, it is the change of thinking and attitude that changes our behaviors. To try to change our outside behaviors without changing our inward attitudes will never work. We must first change the heart and the righteous behaviors will then follow. Jesus taught this in a figure of speech saying, *"first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also"* (Matthew 23:26). Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience is not the way of the world. For most who are baptized into Christ, there is work needed to change these attitudes within ourselves. A good way to approach a deeper study of these principles is to examine how Jesus had these traits in His heart and how we must learn from His example.

Colossians 3:13 says we are to bear with one another speaking of our heart of patience and kindness. Many in the world have no tolerance to bear with someone else. Paul writes of this in Ephesians 4:13 saying *"walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* This is an expectation from God for every Christian. It is a heart which I must "put on."

Colossians 3:13 continues saying we are to forgive one another "just

Know Your Bible

Miracles of Paul and Peter

1. What woman did Peter raise from the dead?
2. What sorcerer was blinded at Paul's command?
3. On what island did Paul heal the governor's family and others?
4. What happened when Peter and John places hand on the believers at Samaria?
5. How many times was Peter delivered from prison by an angel?

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.



as the Lord forgave you." Again, this is an area worthy of much deeper study – how the Lord has forgiven us. God went to much effort to bring about our forgiveness (the sending and sacrifice of His Son). His forgiveness of our sin is complete. He will count our sin against us no more. We must be willing to forgive one another, work to bring about resolution, and then truly forgive. For many, these things can be difficult because they are so very different from the manner in which they formerly lived in the world.

Colossians 3:14 says *"beyond all these things"* – more than these things, we are to *"put on love."* We can see love in some who are not in Christ, but many in the world do not love. Love does not exist in some marriages, some parents, some children. Love for a friend is often scarce and weak at best. Proverbs 17:17 says *"a friend loves at all times,"* and we all long for friends like that. In Christ, we are to be that kind of friend, spouse, parent, and child. In our fellowship with other Christians we are to *"put on love."* The very words indicate it is something lacking in us. Putting on love means I must change my thinking (my heart), which leads to my change of behavior. Love between brethren *"is the perfect bond of unity"* (Colossians 3:14).

Romans 13:14 says we are to *"put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts."* The battle against lusts will never stop. Satan tempts us in areas that appeal to us, the things we lust after. We have chosen to be the servant of God in Christ Jesus. "Putting on the Lord Jesus" is the same concept as "putting on the New Man". If we are to be successful in making the change of thoughts and behaviors as God demands, we must fight strongly to become the New Man. We cannot allow a provision for the flesh. We cannot provide an avenue through which our lusts might be fulfilled. If your lust is to get drunk – you cannot provide easy access to alcohol. If your lust is to gamble – you cannot go places where gambling is happening. You cannot go with a friend who wants to gamble. If your lust is about sexual sin – you cannot provide an avenue for that lust such as watching films, going places where a companion might be found for the night, or developing a relationship with someone to an extent you cannot control your lusts. Being alone with someone can be a provision for the flesh. Make *"no provision for the flesh"* is the attitude every Christian must have. This is the only way I can continue to be the New Man.

Becoming the mature New Man in Christ Jesus is not something that will happen overnight. It is a constant effort and a life-long goal. Ephesians 4:23 says the new man is a result of being *"renewed in the spirit of your mind."* Romans 12:2 says *"do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."* It is a difficult thing to change our heart, to change our thinking, attitudes, and behaviors. The concept of renewal is on-going for the Christian. As we study, we learn more of how we need to change and we must go about accomplishing that change. Truly, *"our inner man is being renewed day by day"* (2 Corinthians 4:16).

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by Charles Willis