

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. Joash - age 7 (2 Chronicles 24:1)

2. Manasseh - 55 yrs (2 Kings 21:1)

3. Zimri - 7 days (1 Kings 16:15)

4. The gnat (Matthew 23:24)

5. Luke

6. Psalm 119 - with 176 verses

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship


Greeter: Truett Blazek  
Announcements: Billy Scherry  
Encouragement Talk: Tyler Blazek  
Opening Prayer: John Franks  
Scripture Reading: Sandon Spyker  
Luke 9:18-27  
Song Leader: Arturo Orozco  
Table Talk: John Van Baale  
Contribution: Eddie Bowen  
Helper: yle Crain  
Fruit of Vine: Kevin Buckner  
Helper: Corwin Richardson  
Helper: Gary Tuttle  
Closing Prayer: Billy Lovell

Sunday Afternoons

May 25 3PM Building Work Day  
  
June 1 Visitation Day (not at building)  
  
June 8 3PM Singing  
  
June 15 Nothing

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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Plots And Dissatisfactions

Man and his ways have not changed since the time of the events of the Bible. We still tend to behave in the same ways and think in the same ways. This is nowhere proven more true than when an individual wants to see something changed in a group of which he is a part.

Numbers 16 records one such man and his methods. Korah was dissatisfied with the leadership of Moses and Aaron. Ultimately he asks them, *"why did you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?"* (16:3). While the question itself demonstrates his unbelief in God's choice of Moses and Aaron, his methods are also deceiving, for Korah had been talking about this long before he came to Moses and Aaron. Numbers 16:1 says he, along with Dathan, Abiram, On, and 250 leaders of the congregation, came to Moses and Aaron. This implies much discussion and planning prior to the question being asked.

This same behavior is exhibited toward Jesus in Matthew 25:3-5 when *"the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas; and they plotted together to seize Jesus by stealth and kill Him."* This plot was discussed and formed in the private court of the High Priest (not the Sanhedrin council chambers), out of the public eye. They were unwilling to address Jesus publicly, for verse 15 continues saying, *"Not during the festival, otherwise a riot might occur among the people."* This is always the method of the wicked who are dissatisfied. *"The Jews formed a conspiracy and bound themselves under an oath, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Paul"* (Acts 23:12).

We must beware of our own conduct, and those of brethren within the congregation, that we not be guilty of this same undermining and plotting due to dissatisfaction. 2 Peter 2:1 states the false teacher exhibits this behavior by secretly introducing *"destructive heresies..."*. Jude 1:16 refers to the wicked teacher as *"...grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of*

gaining an advantage.” Jude 1:19 continues saying, “*These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.*”

We must take care about what we say and who we listen to. Proverbs 26:20-22 states, “*For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down. Like charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels, And they go down into the innermost parts of the body.*”

If a member of a congregation is dissatisfied, plotting in secret, rallying support among members, and speaking evil of others before going to them, we must understand this is sinful. The “*depraved mind*” is “*full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice, they are gossips...*” (Rom. 1:29). Strife, disputes, and factions are listed as deeds of the flesh (Gal. 5:20). Paul was concerned that upon his return to Corinth he would find “*that perhaps there will be strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances*” (2 Cor. 12:20). None of these are the proper behaviors of the children of God.

If we are dissatisfied, we should first determine why, and whether it is for a godly reason. If it is, we should pursue a course of resolution that is scriptural. If we have a problem with a fellow member, we are to go to them for reconciliation (Matt. 5:24). If your brother has a fault (sin), you are to “*go and show him his fault in private*” (Matt. 18:15). If he refuses to listen, you are to take two or three witnesses and speak to him again (Matt. 18:16). If he still refuses to listen, then you are to “*tell it to the church*” (Matt. 18:17), which is easily accomplished by speaking to the elders who should take the leadership in disciplinary efforts. If your dissatisfaction is with the elders, you should speak to the elders in private (Matt. 5:24; 18:15).

By following God’s ways, we maintain unity, peace, and harmony within the congregation. To follow the ways of the world is to destroy the work of God in this location. Let us be diligent to walk in a worthy manner.

By Charles Willis

***Know  
Your  
Bible***

**Extremes**

1. Who was the youngest king mentioned in the Bible?
2. What king of Judah had the longest reign?
3. What king of Israel had the shortest reign?
4. What is the smallest animal mentioned in the Bible?
5. What is the longest book in the Bible?
6. What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

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.



***Under The Elder’s Authority***

by Charles Willis

The New Caney congregation has always been blessed with a lot of visitors (so said Don Willis, who started the congregation). In my time in the congregation I can see this continues to be true. Several times we have had visitors who are traveling the country in their RV. Some do this for weeks or months out of the year, and some full time. One visitor told me sometimes there was not a faithful church in the area so they would hold a worship service on their own, but if there was a local congregation they felt they “needed to be under the authority of an elder.”

We should worship with a congregation while visiting in their area, because we do not take a vacation from God. Our responsibilities to worship Him on the first day of the week are continual. But, am I placing myself under the authority of an eldership when I visit a local congregation? An elder’s responsibility is to “*shepherd the flock of God among you...nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock*” (1 Peter 5:2-3). When I stop in for a few assemblies am I considered part of that flock? I am not participating in any of the work of the congregation. I am generally not publicly participating in the worship (just in my singing, prayers, and taking communion). I am not depended on to fulfill responsibilities for the congregation. How then am I considered part of the flock which the elder is to shepherd?

Further, how do the elders know they are to shepherd me if I am simply attending a few times? They will consider me a visitor that is not part of their “allotted charge.” How can the elders be an “example” to me as a visitor when I often don’t even know who the elders are?

God’s plan is to have elders “*in every church*” (Acts 20:17; Titus 1:5). Each local congregation is autonomously governed by elders that are a part of the local work. Scripture also indicates that identification with (joining) a local congregation was a practice in the first century (Romans 12:4; 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:27). To roam for months on end is to REMOVE yourself from the elder’s authority. Visiting other local congregations does not fulfill our responsibilities of edification and cooperation in the work of the Lord. We must be part of a local congregation.

**Next Sunday Is Visitation Day**

Some 18 months ago we changed our assembly times to provide more opportunity for doing good works that God expects of us. Next Sunday is a day to encourage others. We need to know our local brethren. The elders are asking that we purposefully meet with other Christians next Sunday. Have someone over for lunch or dinner, or go out. Just sit and visit. Go visit some who are unable to get out. We are to encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Hebrews 3:13). We have set aside 3 Visitation Days this year, next week is the 2nd. If you missed the 1st one, be sure to participate next week! Make your plans, arrange with others. Encourage others by visiting, and you will be the most encouraged!