

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. Damascus (Acts 9:19–25)

2. Through a secret gate next to the king’s garden (2 Kings 25:1–5)

3. She placed an idol in David’s bed and told the messengers he was sick (1 Sam. 19:11–18).

This Week’s Assignments & Events	
Sunday Worship	Sunday Afternoons
Greeter: Gary Tuttle	June 1 Visitation Day (not at building)
Announcements: Tyler Blazek	
Encouragement Talk: John Franks	June 8 3PM Singing
Opening Prayer: John Van B aale	
Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen	June 15 Nothing
Luke 9:28–36	
Song Leader: Josh Emerson	June 22 3PM Devotionals
Table Talk: Arturo Orozco	
Contribution: Kevin Buckner	
Helper: Sandon Spyker	
Fruit of Vine: Billy Scherry	Wednesday Evening
Helper: Verlin Wilson	Song Leader: Truett Blazek
Helper: Lester Mabry	Speaker: Tyler Blazek
Closing Prayer: Scott McDearman	



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 Healthy Sense Of Shame

What ever happened to our sense of shame? Is there nothing that shocks us as a nation anymore? Have we forgotten what it means to be embarrassed? Is there anyone among us who still knows how to blush? These questions came rushing to my mind recently when I learned that the city of Chicago has now named a street in honor of porn king and Playboy Magazine owner, Hugh Hefner. How in the world does a leading city in this “Christian nation” stoop to honor the king of smut? Hasn’t his magazine (and others like it) done enough to destroy our society as it is? And now we honor this evil man! Something is wrong with that! The report went on to inform us that after the street-naming ceremony, Mr. Hefner was off to some southern university “to scout out new talent.” Is there no shame?

The question came to my mind again, as I watched a recent “Today” program with Katie Couric and Matt Lauer. In one segment, Katie spoke with ice-skating star, Rudy Galindo, about his testing HIV positive as a result of homosexual, “unsafe sex.” There was no expression of remorse for his participation in what the Bible calls a “*degrading passion*” (Rom. 1:26–27); no shame and no embarrassment. Just an effort to encourage the practice of “safe sex.” More than anything else, he wanted people to learn from his situation that “safe sex is not an empty slogan.” Isn’t there something wrong with that?!

Earlier this spring, we had an interesting conversation with one of our local high school guidance counselors. We were asking about whether or not the mandatory swimming classes are mixed (boys and girls in the same classes). She told us that their experience at this high school was that co-ed swimming just doesn’t work with ninth and tenth graders. “They’re just too embarrassed for the opposite sex to see their bodies,” she said; but went on to say that by eleventh and twelfth grade, “the students are okay with it.” I want to know what happens between tenth and eleventh grade that makes this true? Somehow, by the eleventh grade our young people are losing their sense of shame! Something is seriously wrong with that!

Now you may not be surprised by these illustrations—and I guess I’m not really either. I’ve known for a long time that our world—and especially our nation—has been corrupted, has become totally immoral, and has lost all sense of shame. We are indeed a nation of people “*whose glory is in their shame*” (Phil. 3:19); that is, we “glory” in (and are most proud of) the

very thing that we ought to be ashamed of! Our ethical values are so inverted that what should embarrass us doesn't, and what ought not to embarrass us does! And something is terribly wrong with that!

But what can I do about it? What can we—the people of God—do about it? Well, one thing that I know we can do is at least not allow ourselves to be forced into the world's mold! We can keep ourselves from conforming to our age (Rom. 12:2)! But right here is where I become most disturbed! I'm troubled by how corrupt our nation is, but I'm even more concerned by how many among us—the people of God—are being infected by our society! Like those around us, we're losing our sense of shame. We're no longer embarrassed about sexual sin among us.

Adultery and divorce are commonplace in the church—even among its leaders—and we're not ashamed! Problems with pornography are rampant—and we're not embarrassed. Pregnancy outside of marriage is dismissed among us with a casual "kids make mistakes" excuse—and no one blushes! No longer is it just the young folks who slip off to the public swimming pool or wear the modern mini skirts; now it's most people in the church who "can't see anything wrong with" mixed swimming or immodest dress.

Where is that sense of shame that ought to be rooted fast within the individual's character (1 Tim. 2:9–10)? Slowly, because of our own spiritual carelessness, that sense of shame has been eroded. We become desensitized to sin and hardened by its deceitfulness (Heb. 3:12–13). Suddenly, we're not embarrassed by the language around us...or the undress...or the flirtation with sin. And the next thing you know, we're involved in it...maybe a bit tentatively at first, but soon enough we get over it and then we're "okay with it." And the next thing you know we're right there in it with the rest of the world! And the next thing you know...we're lost!

Something has got to be done to recapture our sense of shame! It's time for us to wake up, *"for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. The night is almost gone and the day is at hand."* It's time for us to *"lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light."* It's time for us to *"put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provisions for the flesh in regard to its lusts."* (Rom. 13:11–14). It's time for us to start thinking more soberly and start developing a healthy sense of shame.

By Rick Liggin

*Think On These Things*, Vol. 31, #3, Aug. 2000

***Know  
Your  
Bible***

**Escapes**

1. Paul enraged the Jewish leaders so they decided to murder him. His friends let him down in a basket through the city wall. What city was this in?
2. Nebuchadnezzar breached the walls of Jerusalem. How did the king and some others escape?
3. How did Michal (David's wife) fool the messengers who came to get David?

*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.



***Judgement Books***

by Charles Willis

At the judgment there will be many who are surprised over many things, but perhaps one of the biggest will be over what books will be opened. It is a sad truth that men today look to many different books from which they learn (supposedly) the truth about how to please God and be righteous.

I can easily imagine some on that great day asking God – where is ‘the book of Mormon, another testament of Christ’? A simple answer will likely come from Christ, *“I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel: which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed”* (Gal. 1:6-8). Imagine the shock on the faces of some when Christ says that book will not be opened.

Others will look about in vain for the creed book which they have so diligently learned and lived by. Again, a simple answer might be given to them such as, *“in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men”* (Matt. 15:9). The shock on thousands of faces will appear as dismay and realization when Christ says those books will not be opened.

Only two books will be opened on that day. These are the books we must be concerned about. Paul speaks of his fellow workers “whose names are in the book of life” (Phil. 4:3). In reference to heaven, John's revelation says *“nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life”* (Rev. 21:27). We must be obedient unto God to be placed in His book of life. Furthermore Jesus says, *“He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him in the last day”* (John 12:48). It will be of no eternal use to us to look to books of men about how to please God, for they will not be opened in the last day. Only the word of God (where Jesus' words are recorded) will be opened, along with the book of life. Therefore Peter tell us to *“grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”* (2 Pet. 3:18). Sober words indeed.

**JUNE 22 - DEVOTIONALS**