

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. Moses (Exodus 3:5)
2. John the Baptist (Matthew 3:11)
3. Ruth (4:7)
4. The Passover (Exodus 12:11)

This Week's Assignments & Events		
Sunday Worship	Sunday Afternoons	
Greeter: Casey Thomas	June 22	3PM Devotionals
Announcements: Arturo Orozco		
Encouragement Talk: John Van Baale	June 29	Nothing
Opening Prayer: Eddie Bowen		
Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson	July 6	Nothing
Luke 9:49-56		
Song Leader: Billy Lovell	July 13	3PM Summer Study
Table Talk: John Franks		
Contribution: Tyler Blazek		
Helper: Truett Blazek		
Fruit of Vine: Sandon Spyker		
Helper: Billy Scherry		
Helper: Aaron Heald		
Closing Prayer: Kevin Buckner		
	Wednesday Evening	
	Song Leader: Arturo Orozco	
	Speaker: John Franks	



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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Abstain From Wickedness

Abstinence is a concept in our society that typically is applied to illicit sexual relationships, and sometimes to alcoholic drinks. As Christians we must be certain to understand the Scriptural teaching about abstinence, which is much deeper than the understanding of our society.

"Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness" (2 Timothy 2:19). To name the name of the Lord, is to regard Jesus as Lord. This phrase speaks of those who submit themselves to the authority of Jesus as Lord and have confessed that Jesus is Lord. God expects us to "abstain from wickedness." The King James translation has "depart from iniquity." "Abstain" ("depart") is from the Greek word *aphistēmi* meaning "to remove, that is, (actively) instigate to revolt; usually (reflexively) to desist, desert, etc." (Strong's G868). To desert something is to have nothing to do with it.

We are to abstain from "wickedness." Thayer's Greek Lexicon defines the Greek word *adikia* (Strong's G93) as "a deed violating law and justice, act of unrighteousness." It is unrighteous because God has given law and defined unrighteousness for us. It is not my standard that must be followed, but God's.

Ephesians 4:22-24 teaches the same concept in different words, saying we are to *"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."* No one who confesses Jesus as their Lord can continue in sin. We are to "consider the members of your earthly body as dead" to sinful things in which *"you also once walked, when you were living in them; But now you also, put them all aside..."* (Col. 3:5-8).

Abstinence from wickedness is not something we should do in order to appear righteous before men, or to seek the approval of folks at church, nor to satisfy elders. We abstain from wickedness in order to be right with God. To name the name of the Lord and fail to abstain, and still think we are righteous, is only to deceive ourselves.

"The one who desires life, to love and see good days...must turn away from evil and do good" (1 Pet. 3:11).

"Examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thess. 5:22). Every Christian has a responsibility to examine everything, comparing it to

the word of God. The King James translates this as *“prove all things.”* God’s Word tells us whether something is good or evil. Hebrews 5:14 teaches us that the solid food of God’s word helps to train our senses to discern good and evil. We cannot rely on what society says is good, nor what our conscience might think is evil. We need the instruction of God’s word. Many will examine everything, but fail to compare with God’s word, and choose to disregard the good and instead participate with evil. Many souls will be lost for failing to hear God’s word and applying it. As in the days of Israel, God’s people can be destroyed for lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6).

“Holding fast to that which is good” refers to our attitude about God’s word. *“Holding fast”* is translated from the Greek word *katechō* (Strong’s G2722) meaning “to hold fast, keep secure, keep firm possession of” (Thayer’s Lexicon). We are to *“hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful”* (Hebrews 10:23). Our attitude must be to not let go of the things God has said. We must not adopt a mindset of commitment to these things and not waver from our faith that caused us to name the name of Jesus.

Holding fast is the responsibility of the individual. No one else can accomplish it on behalf of another: not a spouse, a parent, an elder, or a congregation. We each must hold fast to what is good. Most Christians understand this point and accept it—once we understand what God says is good.

“Abstain from every form of evil” is where more Christians seem to have trouble. They either do not know what God has said is evil, or they have not adopted the attitude of abstinence from evil. They have accepted some level of participation in evil and still believe they are right with God. Most Christians have abstained from sinful things that are easily observed by others, yet we can be equally guilty of failing to abstain from looking with lust (Matt. 5:28), keeping our tongue from evil (1 Pet. 3:10), grumbling and disputing (Phil. 2:14), or worry (Matt. 6:31), which can all be done in private. We must make application to all areas of our life.

“I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul” (1 Peter 2:11). Scripture does teach sexual abstinence, which the society seems to be aware of, though it is ignored. As Christians we must abstain from all wickedness. If you have struggled to abstain, pray God’s forgiveness, turn away from evil and do good *“trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them”* (Eph. 5:10-11). (CLW)

Know Your Bible

Foot Coverings

1. Who was told by God to take off his shoes because he was standing on holy ground?
2. Who told people that he was not worthy to carry the Messiah’s sandals?
3. What book mentions the custom of giving a person one’s shoe as a sign of transferring property?
4. During what historical event where the Hebrews told to keep their shoes on and be ready to travel?

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.



I Have Found The Book Of The Law

by Donald Willis

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign as King over Judah. Josiah was blessed by having a good mother and capable advisers. Josiah attempted to bring Judah back to God, whom they had forsaken. He first destroyed the evil worship, and set up divine worship, restoring the religious days that God had ordained.

Josiah did not establish a new religion, he simply found the rejected religion of God and restored God’s people to faithful keeping of the commandments. This type of restoration is yet needed.

Josiah’s high priest said, *“I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord...”* (2 Kings 22:8). Who would have thought that God’s law book could be lost in the Lord’s house? People elevate human laws, creed books, personal opinions, denominational rules...and it has become difficult for one to find the Law of the Lord. Yet, it must be found, for it reveals the righteousness of God (Rom. 1:16-17); and it is the revelation of God whereby the child of God is completely furnished to all good works (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Reject the laws of men, and require the keeping of the Bible. Demand the preacher give book, chapter, and verse for every teaching that comes from his mouth.

Many lose the Law of God in their own homes. The home should be responsible toward God and His law. The Bible should be cherished by the family. Bible reading is important (2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11-12). Our young people need to see the parents reading the Bible. Devotion around the table or in the living room can enrich the child’s life. But, the Bible is hidden beneath the TV or under a stack of magazine, or newspapers. Restore the Bible to the home!

Many lose their Bible in their own personal character. The Bible is the best book of books! Agreed! Yet, the benefit of the Bible is not in possessing a Bible, but in the reading of it, and making application thereof in one’s heart. Until the Bible has changed our character, it has been of little benefit to us. When one reads the Bible, either the life will be changed, or one will quit reading the Bible! How does it affect you?

Yes, the Bible was lost! And, today the Bible is lost! No, we have our personal copies of the Bible, yet when a people cease to follow the Bible in the churches, appreciate the Bible in their homes, and apply the Bible to their lives, in reality the Bible has been lost. The only way that I can change this is with ME. You can change with YOU be respecting the Bible and teaching it to your family and neighbors. Really, that’s what Christianity is all about anyway!