

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. Swaddling clothes and a manger  
(Luke 2:12)

2. Gideon (Judges 6:36–38)

3. Egypt (Exodus 10:2)

4. Jeroboam (1 Kings 13:5)

5. Tongues (1 Corinthians 14:22)

| This Week's Assignments & Events |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday Worship                   | Sunday Afternoons         |
| Greeter: Gaary Tuttle            | Aug 24 3PM Visitation Day |
| Announcements: John Franks       |                           |
| Encouragement Talk: Josh Emerson | Aug 31 Nothing            |
| Opening Prayer: Kevin Buckner    |                           |
| Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen   | Sept 7 Weekend Study      |
| Luke 11:37–54                    |                           |
| Song Leader: Billy Lovell        | Sept 14 Nothing           |
| Table Talk: Arturo Orozco        |                           |
| Contribution: Billy Scherry      |                           |
| Helper: Kyle Crain               |                           |
| Fruit of Vine: John Van Baale    |                           |
| Helper: Aaron Heald              |                           |
| Helper: Verlin Wilson            |                           |
| Closing Prayer: Tyler Blazek     |                           |
|                                  | Wednesday Evening         |
|                                  | Song Leader: John Franks  |
|                                  | 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 22  
Number 34  
August 24, 2025

Inspiration of Scripture

A Gallop Poll started in 1975 which has since been taken an additional 22 times. In 1975 45% agreed the Bible is the actual word of God and should be taken literally; 38% agreed it is inspired but to be taken literally; 13% agreed the Bible is ancient fables, history, and ledgens recorded by man.

The same Gallop Poll in 2022 rendered the following results: 20% agreed the Bible is the actual word of God and should be taken literally; 49% agreed it is inspired by God but not to be taken literally; 29% agreed the Bible is ancient fables, history and legends recorded by man. (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/394262/fewer-bible-literal-word-god.aspx>) This reflects a drop of 18% believing the Bible is lieteral in 50 years!

Fundamental Belief

The trend in America is a declining belief in the literal inspiration of scripture. If this rate continues, in 2075 the figure will be 16.4%. We all can tell it won't be long till the figure is in the single digits. As we consider the extent of unscriptural worship practices that exist today, as well as the extent of unscriptural works being done by “churches,” it should come as no surprise to learn that a vast majority of people do not view scriptures to be inspired and should therefore be taken literally.

In this regard the church of Christ in New Caney is unique. Those who believe in the literal inspiration of scripture are viewed as odd. Demands to adhere to what the Bible says is thought to be peculiar and strange. Certainly these are not the “norms” of our religious society.

The loss of this fundamental belief has led many into the acceptance of error. It is a denial of the truth which will cost men their souls.

Affirmation Of Inspiration

The Bible is a collection of 66 books that harmonize in thought, even though

written by 40 different men over 16 centuries. This could not have happened accidentally. The writing of men does not harmonize like this. It is a unique characteristic of the Bible. It speaks of a divine author. Truly, *“men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God”* (2 Peter 1:21).

The writing of the Bible is not biased. This is different than the writing of mere men. Those pictured with the highest spiritual natures are also shown to be human by their sin (i.e., Moses, David, Peter, Paul). Men tend to only remember the best qualities or the worst (depending on who is writing). The Bible is distinct in that it is not a respecter of persons. It speaks the whole truth.

The Bible must be the work of inspiration because of the fulfillment of prophecies. Several hundred are recorded. This is too odd a happening for chance. There is no other way to explain this except by inspiration.

Many scientific proofs demonstrate knowledge that was beyond man at the time of the writing. The earth spoken of as hanging on nothing (Job 26:7) and “a circle” (Is. 40:22). Statements about the “springs of the sea” (Job 36:18), the “channels of the sea” (2 Sam. 22:16) and the “recesses of the deep” (Job 38:16) could not have been known by man’s wisdom until robotic research was possible. Nevertheless, the Bible attests to all of them thousands of years earlier. Only the knowledge of God could have revealed such things.

**Conclusion**

As Paul asserts, *“I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ”* (Gal. 1:12). *“All scripture is inspired of God...”* (2 Tim. 3:16). This being true - we MUST obey the literal word of God in order to be complete, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. How foolish to reject His the word of God!

by Charles Willis

**Know  
Your  
Bible**

**Signs**

- 1. What was the sign that the shepherds had found the baby Jesus?
- 2. Who received a wet fleece as a sign from God?
- 3. What nation suffered ten plagues that were signs of God’s power?
- 4. What king saw an alter broken as a sign that God was speaking through a prophet?
- 5. In the beginning of the church what sign did God give for the unbelievers?

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.



**Holy Beer**

by Charles Willis

Many years ago Jeff Trahan and I were door knocking in Pasadena, Texas, inviting people to an upcoming gospel meeting. I am just a little older than Jeff; at the time I think I was perhaps twenty-five. (Jeff now preaches in Port Naches, Tx.) We came upon a house with three men and three motorcycles. They were dressed in the typical leather attire many bikers wear, with bandanas on their heads and many tattoos, and just looked like “rough” individuals. Jeff began to move to the other side of the street, and I said “come on.”

We approached the driveway and I introduced us and invited them to the meeting. They did not look interested. One man replied, “Will you be serving beer?” which caused his friends to laugh. I replied, “Would you attend if we were serving beer?” They stopped laughing and did not reply (as I recall). I believe I said, “We will not be serving beer.” Just because people do not have an appearance we anticipate a believer should have does not mean we should pre-judge them and not extend invitations to them. My reply on this occasion was to demonstrate to them the ridiculousness of their question and their total lack of interest in hearing the gospel proclaimed.

Sadly, in recent years, some churches have begun to think this is not ridiculous and have started serving beer. *“A pub in Fort Worth is home to the Church-in-a-Pub, where members of the Calvary Lutheran Church meet for services and grab a pint at the same time... Philip Heinze (pastor) shared that there is one financial benefit to having mass at a pub. “We do a get a happy hour rate on beer ... it’s kinda nice.”* (<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/11/12/texas-church-attracts-new-followers-with-beer.html>)

*“Pastor Evan Taylor, of East Side Christian Church in Tulsa, said his controversial decision to serve ice cold beers at church attracted a large crowd and succeeded in getting people talking. The event, which featured Portland-based religious author Christian Piatt, was part of an outreach weekend program providing the community with a forum to discuss the future of the local church...East Side Christian Church is one of four that took part in hosting events for Piatt. Others included First Christian Church of Downtown Tulsa, Harvard Avenue Christian Church, Phillips Theological Seminary, and Oklahoma Disciples Foundation. There was a two-drink limit for congregates...and no one got drunk.”* (<http://www.christianpost.com/news/oklahoma-pastor-defends-beer-and-hymns-church-night-after-event-draws-protesters-says-jesus-drank-wine-with-hookers-video-129102/#fPvdVv4ijXChHuv4.99>)

This is a newer idea that is beginning to gain acceptance in our country. Alcohol is attracting people, as it has always attracted people. But what are they attracted to? The gospel attracts those who are interested in godliness. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16) not entertainment, not concerts, not youth centers, and not beer. This is another manifestation of worldliness in the guise of religion. Sadly, many involved in such things claim the ends justify the means, and see no need for God’s authority in any method of “reaching out into the community.” We do need to reach people, but not with beer. We need to reach people with the word of God, which will perform its work in those who believe (1 Thess. 1:13). This is what Jesus meant when He commanded the apostles to *“go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation”* (Mark 16:16). Where do people see the role of beer in this? Beer. Really?