

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. Joel (2:28)

2. Lion, bear, leopard, a monster with iron teeth (Daniel 7).

3. Gold, silver, brass, iron (Daniel 2:31–35)

4. Pharoh, his baker and his butler (Genesis 40–41).

This Week's Assignments & Events			
Sunday Worship		Sunday Afternoons	
Greeter:	Corwin Richardson	Nov 9	3PM Study: Loving Like God
Announcements:	Kevin Buckner		
Encouragement Talk:	John Franks	Nov 16	Nothing
Opening Prayer:	Kevin Buckner		
Scripture Reading:	Truett Blazek	Nov 23	Nothing
	Luke 14:16–24		
Song Leader:	Josh Emerson	Nov 30	Nothing
Table Talk:	Arturo Orozco		
Contribution:	Eddie Bowen		
Helper:	Leighton Daniels		
Fruit of Vine:	John Van Baale		
Helper:	Jordan Thomas		
Helper:	Lester Mabry		
Closing Prayer:	Sandon Spyker		
Wednesday Evening			
Song Leader:	Truett Blazek		
Speaker:	Tyler Blazek		



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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Whose Side Are You On?

I am always impressed with football season. Not that I love football so much, but witnessing the passion of fans. While living in Knoxville, I was overwhelmed with how many were fans of the University of Tennessee Volunteers. In the first few months we were there we saw people driving custom painted bright orange vehicles! I remain impressed at fans looking at aerial shots of stadiums on game day viewing a sea of team color. At most High School stadiums there is a “home side” and “visitor side.” In the larger collegiate and professional stadiums it is assumed everyone is rooting for the home team. The visiting team fans often stick out because of their enthusiasm for the wrong team.

As Christians, we are not fans of a team. We are participants. Soldiers in the army. God demands from each of us a loyalty that is not questioned. “*No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other*” (Matt. 6:24). “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength*” (Mark 12:30). “*Now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again*” (Gal. 4:9)? “*But My righteous one shall live by faith; And if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul*” (Heb. 10:38-39). Peter said he would “*never fall away*” (Matt. 26:33), yet he did. We must “*be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord*” (1 Cor. 15:58). We understand the concept of team loyalty, but often fail to see how God expects our loyalty to Him and His way.

Our Loyalties Are Observable By Others. They can hear our loyalty (or lack of it) in our language. They can see our loyalty in our behavior (when we go to assemblies - Heb. 10:25, when we dress modestly - 1 Tim. 2:9, when we discipline our children

- Eph. 6:4, when we read our Bible - Rom. 10:17, refusing to go with them into sin - 1 Pet. 4:4). Even more, our loyalty is recognized by others as evidenced in our character. They see we are different from the world. *"Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have"* (Heb. 13:5). *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves"* (Phil. 2:3). *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another"* (Gal. 5:22-26).

Our Disloyalty Is Observable By Others. They hear us saying how we love God, yet we do not obey Him (John 14:15). They hear us speak of our trust in Him, yet observe us worrying about the cares of life (Matt. 6:25-33) [worries which can choke the word - Matt. 13:22]. We speak of what the truth of God means to us, yet they never see us reading it or quoting it. Our sin is apparent to the world. They watch us closely to see if we walk as a child of light, *"for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth"* (Eph. 5:8-9). *"By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother"* (1 John 3:10).

Conclusion Men rely on what is observable, but God sees our heart. We will never fool God. He knows them that are His (2 Tim. 2:19)! Let us be diligent in righteousness. In every aspect of our life (thoughts, words, actions, character) let us demonstrate who's side we are on!

By Charles Willis

*To Christ be loyal and be true; In noble service prove
Your faith and your fidelity, the fervor of your love.
To Christ the Lord, be true, For He will go with you
And help you all your conflicts through; To Christ the Lord be true.*
(To Christ Be True - hymn by Elisha Hoffman and Daniel Wilson, verse 3)

**Know
Your
Bible**

Dreamers

1. Which prophet said there will come a day when young men will see visions and old men will dream dreams?
2. Daniel had a dream of four beasts rising out of the sea. What did they look like?
3. In his dream of the staute in Daniel 2, what metals did Nebuchadnezzar see?
4. What three Egyptian officials did Joseph interpret dreams for?

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.



TRUTH: COMES FROM GOD

by Charles Willis

The Father is called *"God of truth"* (Psalm 31:5; Isaiah 65:16). Jesus said he is *"the truth"* (John 14:6) and speaks *"the truth"* (John 8:45). The Holy Spirit is called *"the Spirit of truth"* (John 14:17; 16:13) who guided the apostles *"into all truth"* (John 16:13). It should come as no surprise that Jesus said, *"Your word is truth"* (John 17:17). It is the Word of the Father (the God of truth) who has given the truth to us in written form.

"Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice. Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38). Pilate's question is one that many wrestle with today. They are not satisfied with a concept that the God of Truth has given us the Word of Truth which Jesus has testified about. People search for truth in many different ways, and at times will blind themselves to the truth. The "fake news" that has been exposed in recent years in American Media has not stopped some from believing what that Media presents. It is accepted as truth. When some are shown the truth in Scripture and how the teaching of men is "fake religion", they continue to believe the lies. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths" (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

The Bible is *"the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation"* (Ephesians 1:13), *"the word of truth, the gospel"* (Colossians 1:5). God *"desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"* (1 Timothy 2:4). This is why God's Word has been written down. We do not rely on some man to tell us God's word, God has told us. Our confidence is not in the word of men, but in the revealed word of the God of Truth.

Some will *"not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved"* (2 Thessalonians 2:10). That doesn't change the reality of the *"word of truth."* A rejection of truth doesn't change the truth. Jesus said, *"everyone who is of the truth hears My voice"* (John 18:37). Being *"of the truth"* is about believing and following the truth. Rather than reject the truth, it is accepted and obeyed. These are the ones who hear Jesus' voice. He testifies to the truth - He is a king. King of the Kingdom of God. The one whom the Father exalted to His right hand in the heavenly places *"far above all rule and authority and power and dominion..."* (Ephesians 1:20-21).

The God of Truth wants us to be saved. We must give heed and obey His Word of Truth. Everything else is false.