

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. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:4)

2. Those who wait for the Lord (Is. 40:31)

3. Samson's (Judges 13:10)

4. A sponge (Matthew 27: 46–48)

This Week's Assignments & Events		
Sunday Worship	Sunday Afternoons	
Greeter: Gobi Warner	Dec 14	Nothing
Announcements: John Franks		
Encouragement Talk: John Van Baale	Dec 21	Nothing
Opening Prayer: Jordan Thomas		
Scripture Reading: Kyle Crain	Dec 28	Nothing
Luke 16:19–31		
Song Leader: Billy Lovell		
Table Talk: Kevin Buckner	Jan 4	Nothing
Contribution: Josh Emerson		
Helper: Aaron Emerson		
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek		
Helper: Truett Blazek		
Helper: Lester Mabry		
Closing Prayer: Eddie Bowen		
	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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Contentment

In an age that is always seeking to better itself, the teaching of Jesus seems alien and bizarre: *"do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on"* (Matthew 6:25). The command to 'not worry about things in this life' doesn't seem to relate to the American culture. Nevertheless, we are Christians. Jesus says don't worry about these things.

We sometimes moan and groan about how deprived we are, when deep down we know we are rich! We still see the need for a bigger screen T.V., better speakers, a better computer, the latest phone, a better automobile with a few more bells and whistles. Everyone can think of one or two things that they own which could be improved by a better model. While there is nothing wrong with enjoying life and receiving the fruit of our physical labor, we are told in 1 Corinthians 10:10 to not "grumble" ("murmur" - KJ) as some of the Old Testament forefathers did. When reason is clouded by the desire to improve our lot and we begin to complain to God, then we are violating the will of the Father.

"Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). This implies we must trust in the promises of God, and be content that He will provide for our needs. That's the same things Jesus said in regards to the flowers of the field, how *"they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these"* (Matthew 6:28–29).

How hard! We get tired of the way things are, and we want to improve ourselves. The Bible unquestionably states we should improve ourselves, but we mean to improve the things we surround ourselves with. Isn't that materialism? Sure, some things wear out and have to be replaced, but how many of us get rid of clothes because they are out of style, or we're just tired of them and want something new? How many of us long for the better home, the better car, the better whatever? Our culture says this is normal:

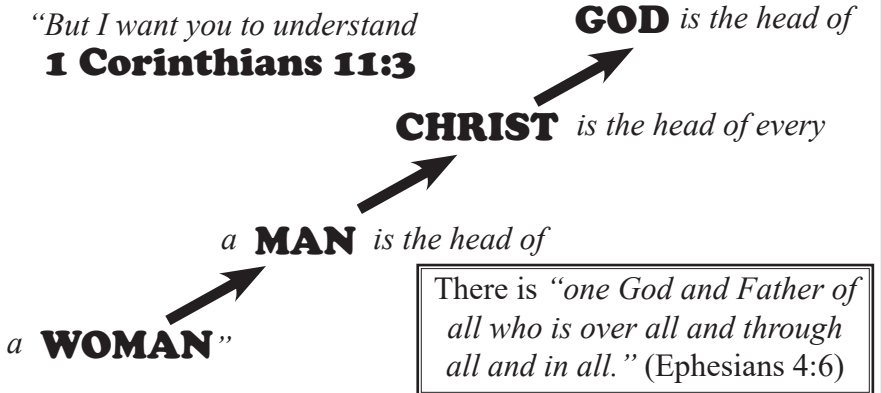
“satisfy the craving.” God says be content, *“I will never leave you or forsake you.”*

Trying to be your best in whatever field is a good attribute, but when everything else gets pushed aside to climb the ladder, we are no longer content. Too many men and women are selfishly trying to improve their situation financially. Families are ignored to work more hours (when our needs have been met). Ethics and morals are set aside to be “successful”. Employee relationship are trampled to get promotions. This from a Nation who’s slogan is “In God We Trust”! Trusting God means we’re not so worried about “things” in this life, but are content with what we have!

Contentment is a mind-set. See how little you can get by on and be content. I imagine it will be less than what we think is possible. Plan special menus, turn off things like the microwave, T.V., radio. Use just one car for a while, or one bathroom. You get the idea. You’ll be surprised how content you can be with a lot less “stuff.”

Paul sums it up best in 1 Timothy 6:6–8 saying *“godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.”* This says ‘godliness without contentment is no gain’. Without contentment in this life we do not please God! We are content when we trust God!

By Charles Willis



**Know
Your
Bible**

Runners

1. What short man ran to see Jesus but could not because of his height?
2. According to Isaiah, what sort of people can run and not be weary?
3. What judge’s mother ran to tell her husband Manoah that an angel had appeared to her?
4. What did a man at Jesus’ crucifixion run to find for the dying Jesus?

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.

**Which of the following are true?
Which of these can save a person?**

- Man is saved by hope. (Romans 8:24; Titus 1:2)
- Man is saved by grace. (Ephesians 2:5, 8; Titus 2:11)
- Man is saved by faith. (Acts 16:31; John 8:21–24; Hebrews 11:6)
- Man is saved by mercy. (Titus 3:5)
- Man is saved by baptism. (1 Peter 3:21)
- Man is saved by the Word. (James 1:21)
- Man is saved by the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:10; John 8:32)
- Man is saved by obedience. (Hebrews 5:9)
- Man is saved by the gospel. (1 Corinthians 15:1–2)
- Man is saved by knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:4)
- Man is saved by belief and baptism. (Mark 16:16)
- Man is saved by belief and confession. (Romans 10:9)
- Man is saved by calling on the name of the Lord. (Romans 10:13)
- Man is saved by the washing of regeneration. (Titus 3:5)
- Man is saved by being born of the water and the Spirit. (John 3:3–5)
- Man is saved by being faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)
- Man is saved by God. (1 Timothy 2:3–4)
- Man is saved by Jesus Christ. (Matthew 1:21)
- Man is saved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Thessalonians 2:13–14)
- Man is saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 10:9)

Read carefully the list of things by which we are said to be saved. If you take one to the exclusion of others, you negate part of the Bible’s teachings and cause the loss of our own soul.

By Kenneth Thomas
Truth Magazine, July 1, 1999, p.10, edited