

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. Ezekiel

2. Isaiah

3. Agabus (Acts 11:27–28; 21:10–11)

4. Samuel

5. Baalam (Numbers 22–24)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Casey Thomas
Announcements: Jordan Thomas
Encouragement Talk: Tyler Blazek
Opening Prayer: Leighton Daniels
Scripture Reading: Aaron Emerson
Luke 19:1–10
Song Leader: Billy Lovell
Table Talk: John Van Baale
Contribution: Arturo Orozco
Helper: Gobi Warner
Fruit of Vine: Sandon Spyker
Helper: Aaron Heald
Helper: Lester Mabry
Closing Prayer: Josh Emerson

Sunday Afternoons

Feb 8 3PM Song Leader Training

Feb 15 Nothing

Feb 22 Visitation Day

Mar 1 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Arturo Orozco
Speaker: Charles Willis



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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The Return Of Elijah

“Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse” (Malachi 4:5-6).

The prophet Malachi labored toward the end of the time of Nehemiah (perhaps from 432-425 B.C.). The same problems mentioned in Nehemiah are addressed in Malachi: corrupt priests, neglect of offerings and tithes, and intermarriage with foreigners. It is believed Nehemiah returned from Persia to deal with the problems Malachi preaches against.

After the prophet Malachi, history records a period of about 400 years when there was no prophet of God in Judah. During this period there was a remembrance of the promise of the sending of Elijah and watching for him.

Elijah was a great prophet of God who lived during the time of the kings of Israel (1 Kings 17 - 2 Kings 2) and was greatly esteemed by the people in their history as one who stood for God. Many of his miracles are recorded. His great challenge on Mt. Carmel with the prophets of Baal and the following events where God fed him in the wilderness via ravens are very memorable. Elijah is a legendary figure in the history of the Jews and the Bible. God, through Malachi, says “I am going to send you Elijah.” He had been dead for some 500 years.

In John 1:19-28 several priests and Levites came from Jerusalem to John the Baptist and asked: “Who are you”? He told them he was not the Christ. He told them he was not Elijah, nor the Prophet. Rather he said, “I am a voice of one crying in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord, as Isaiah the prophet said” (v.23).

The disciples of Christ in Mark 9 had just finished hearing Jesus speak of his resurrection. They discussed this amongst themselves for a bit and finally asked Him *“Why is it that the scribes say that Elijah must come first”* (v.11). Their question comes about by thinking of Elijah’s resurrection. Jesus replies, *“Elijah does first come and restore all things. And yet how is it written of the Son of Man that He should suffer many things and be treated with contempt? But I say to you, that Elijah has indeed come, and they did to him whatever they wished, just as it is written of him”* (Mark 9:12-13). The disciples (along with all the other Jews) were looking for a physical return of Elijah. They were waiting for the prophecy to be fulfilled. Jesus asserts the prophecy must come true, and that in fact it already had occurred.

Scripture does indicate for us who Elijah is that was to return. In Luke 1 we read of an angel of the Lord appearing to Zacharias and saying he and Elizabeth were to have a child and that they would name him John. The angel asserts that John would be filled with the Spirit while yet in his mother’s womb (v.16). *“And he will turn back many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God. And it is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous; so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord”* (v.17-18). Zacharias was a priest (v.5) and would have been very familiar with the prophecy of Malachi which is quoted.

Jesus leaves no doubt as he speaks to the multitudes after John had been imprisoned. *“From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force. For all the prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you care to accept it, he himself is Elijah, who was to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear”* (Matthew 11:12-15).

Even John was not willing to say he was the prophesied Elijah. Jesus tells us how great a man John was, a man of prophecy.

Charles Willis

**Know
Your
Bible**

Prophets

- 1. This prophet, famous for his vision of the dry bones, was with the exiles in Babylon.
- 2. This Prophet is quoted in the New Testament more than any other prophet.
- 3. This Christian prophesied a famine in the land.
- 4. This man was a judge and a prophet.
- 5. This prophet of Moab had a confrontation with his talking donkey.

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.



Work Out Your Own Salvation

By Donald Willis

The title of the article is a statement made in Scripture; possibly we have forgotten: *“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling...”* (Philippians 2:12).

Christianity is a religion of work! Too often, we think it is a religion only of hope! Surely, hope is assured! David wrote in Psalm 39:7 *“And now, Lord, ...My hope is in You.”* The individual that is not a Christian faces death in an undesirable condition. Scripture records that Gentiles who do not obey the gospel are *“without Christ...having no hope and without God in the world”* (Ephesians 2:12).

But, I have hope... I have been baptized! Congratulations, a newborn in Christ is a baby. Babies that do not grow - die, both physically and spiritually. (1 Peter 2:2) *“...as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby...”*. Paul said he first *“fed them with milk, and not with meat”* (1 Corinthians 3:2). Yet, follow the instructions, (Hebrews 5:12–13) *“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe”* (NKJV). The goal is to become teachers, mature. Growth requires study! In 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul encourages: *“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

Knowledgeable Christians are workers! Continuous study and growth toward maturity are necessary! Where do I (we) fit if this consideration?!

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

REQUIRES

- Faith (Heb. 11:6; John 3:36)
- Repentance (2 Pet. 3:9; Acts 17:30)
- Confession (Romans 10:9–10)
- Baptism (Mark 16:15–16; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3–4)

Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3
“INTO”

CHRIST

- BODY (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:23)
- CHURCH (Eph. 1:22–23)
- FAMILY (1 Tim. 3:15; Rom. 8:16–17)
- KINGDOM (John 3:3–5)