

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. Job (38:1)

2. Lazarus (John 11:43)

3. Peter (Acts 10:13–15)

4. Rhoda (Acts 12:14)

5. Darius (Daniel 6:20)

This Week's Assignments & Events	
Sunday Worship	Sunday Afternoons
Greeter: Lester Mabry	March 22 3PM Outdoor Work Day
Announcements: Billy Lovell	
Encouragement Talk: Sandon Spyker	March 29 Nothing
Opening Prayer: Paul Hainline	
Scripture Reading: John Franks	April 5 Nothing
Luke 20:19–26	
Song Leader: Arturo Orozco	April 12 3PM Encouragement (cards/calls)
Table Talk: Tyler Blazek	
Contribution: Jordan Thomas	
Helper: Truett Blazek	
Fruit of Vine: Gary Tuttle	
Helper: Corwin Richardson	
Helper: Aaron Emerson	
Closing Prayer: Jayson Richardson	



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 23
Number 12
March 22, 2026

The Foundation Stands

“Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal,
‘The Lord knows those who are His’, and,
‘Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness’”
(2 Timothy 2:19).

God’s foundation is firm. It is solid and permanent. The foundation of the Lord’s Church, God’s Kingdom, is under discussion. This foundation was spoken of in prophecy hundreds of years in advance. *“Therefore thus says the Lord God, ‘Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, a costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed’”* (Is. 28:16). This cornerstone was provided by God at great cost, *“Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone”* (Ephesians 2:20). The foundation of Jesus is firm and it stands (2 Tim. 2:19). It will not fade away (John 12:48) or change (Heb. 13:8). The facts of His death, burial and resurrection have forever been established. His reign at the right hand of God will be forever (Ephesians 1:20-23). Belief in Jesus is well placed. It is a foundation upon which our entire relationship with God is based.

The first seal on this foundation reads: *“The Lord knows those who are His”*. The seal serves as a promise. It is an unbroken trust (since the seal remains). It is a stamp of approval from God. He knows those who belong to Him. Some may claim to belong to God who will be told, *“depart, I never knew you”* (Matthew 7:21-23). Others will be rejected by the world, despised by some who are called saints. Persecution will be brought against some being accused of horrible things, yet God knows those that are His. He will keep His promises of eternal life to the faithful!

The second promise is also a fact we must recognize: *“Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness”* (2 Tim. 1:19). If we are going to call ourselves the children of God, we must behave as such. We must *“walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called”* (Eph. 4:1). No longer can we continue in the paths of unrighteousness. We are to consider the members of our earthly body as dead to sin and put them all aside (Col. 3:4-8). Predominate in the language of 2 Timothy 2:19 is *“abstain from wickedness”*. If we want

to please God we must have nothing to do with sin. It is not about how close we can get to the world, but how far we are to remove ourselves! ‘Abstain’ leaves no room for participation. None. If we are a Christian in name, we must be a Christian in action. Otherwise we are deceiving ourselves.

God’s foundation is firm. This truth will never change. God is not partial, but will judge everyone in righteousness. Just as Christ is the cornerstone and God knows His people, we must do our part to abstain from wickedness! Are we doing our part? By Charles Willis

Walking By Faith

By Donald Willis

“For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7).

The context of this important passage manifests the meaning. There are items of doctrine that Christians hold which are not learned through sight; i.e., not exposed to view. There are matters which are accepted by faith - a conviction with confidence. Leaning one is to walk by faith is to apprehend that his conviction and confidence is active! James speaks that faith without works is dead (2:17). Faith in God, therefore, finds manifestations!

The walk of a Christian is by faith. There are many activities performed for which there is no logical reason except the principle of faith! Such is the doctrine of baptism, which is commanded by God (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:37; 22:16; Gal. 3:26–27; 1 Pet. 3:21). However, man cannot perceive the connection between going into water and salvation from sin! Therefore some good person asks, “why this dogma?” Beloved, it is an act of faith! God said to do it! This is sufficient reason. Christians walk by faith. One cannot explain (by sight) many activities wrought in previous generations; looking on a brazen serpent as a cure for snake bites, dipping seven times in the Jordan River to cleanse leprosy, etc. But it always worked, for God ordained it. And so it is with baptism. Is saves when done in obedience to the command of God. Therefore He has the right to stipulate conditions upon which this salvation may be given!

The principle of faith must be ever present in the child of God. Worldly wisdom does not lead us to God. Godly preaching is considered foolishness by these intellectual giants (1 Cor. 1:21). Thus, many people fail due to the simplicity that is found in Christ! Mankind had rather have complex, formalistic worship than simple obedience to the gospel of Christ.

Know Your Bible

Voices

1. Who heard God speaking out of a whirlwind?
2. Who came forth when Jesus called him with a loud voice?
3. Who heard God telling him to eat unclean animals?
4. Who recognized Peter’s voice after he was miraculously delivered from prison?
5. What king called to Daniel in an anguished voice?

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 and Family

By Jerry Fite

Jesus knew the truth He was revealing would divide family members. He said, *“For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law: and a man’s foes shall be they of his own household”* (Matthew 10:35-36). The truth of the gospel of Christ is not from man, so it would contradict man’s thoughts (John 1:17, I Corinthians 2:9-13).

The Truth revealed through Christ would therefore test the heart of the follower of Jesus. Would he follow the truth putting Christ first, or would he allow close family relationships to come between him and the knowledge of the truth? Jesus said, *“He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me”* (Matthew 10:37).

Jesus knew the division between family members would be a burden to bear for his sincere followers. But Jesus added, *“and he that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not worthy of me”* (Matthew 10:38). Living as a disciple of Jesus demands putting the Lord and His truth first in or thinking and conduct.

When presented the truth of the Gospel on what to do be saved, some refuse to take the steps commanded by the Lord. They balk because they feel they would be contradicting what family members have believed and practiced for generations. For example, they learn one must *“repent”* and *“be baptized”* for the remission of their sins in order to be saved (Acts 2:38). They learn there is only one church of which Jesus is Head, and Saviour (Matthew 16:18, Ephesians 1:22–23, 4:4, 5:23). The fond memories of loving parents begin to tug at their hearts when one realizes their family members did not obey the same conditions, and were not members of the church revealed in the truth of the New Testament. Some will turn away from the clear truth of the gospel. One has allowed natural family devotion to come between him and the Lord. Some even think that if they obeyed the Truth, they would be condemning their parents to Hell, who did not take the same clearly stipulated steps. God’s Word will be the standard by which God judges us, not our “wishes” or “think-so’s” (John 12:48).

Jesus revealed the destiny of a rich man following his death in Luke 16:19-31. This man was *“in torments”*, *“anguish”*, with no way of escape. His thoughts were with his brethren who were still alive, and still had opportunity to avoid such torment. Jesus’ words teaches us that our dead loved ones, who are lost because they never obeyed the truth of the gospel earnestly wants you to hear the truth of the gospel and not experience the permanent anguish they are now suffering.

Such acuteness to our family’s eternal destiny should drive us to follow the disciplinary demands of Truth while we still live among profligate family members (Eph. 5:11, I Cor. 5:1-13, 2 Thess. 3:6-15). Truth always comes first before family, and sometimes separates us as we stand with Jesus.