

Family Matters

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. Elijah's (2 Kings 6:18–23)
2. Egypt's (Exodus 14:13–31)
3. Amalek (Exodus 17:11)
4. Large hail stones (Joshua 10:11)
5. The sun stood still (Joshua 10:13)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Truett Blazek
Announcements: Josh Emerson
Encouragement Talk: John Franks
Opening Prayer: Leighton Daniels
Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson
Luke 23:33–38
Song Leader: Kevin Buckner
Table Talk: Paul Hainline
Contribution: John Van Baale
Helper: Kyle Crain
Fruit of Vine: Jordan Thomas
Helper: Aaron Emerson
Helper: Lester Mabry
Closing Prayer: Arturo Orozco

Sunday Afternoons

Aug 16 3PM Devotionals
Aug 23 3PM Visitation Day
Aug 30 Nothing
Sept 6 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: John Franks
Speaker: Leighton Daniels



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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A Lack Of Honor

In every generation there has probably been a feeling that the younger generation is lacking in honor toward others, yet I think we must all concede this is true of Americans as the general morality declines. While teaching in the public school, it was the rare occasion when I received honor from a student. Ask anyone who has substituted for a teacher and they will tell you there is a definite lack of respect for those who are older. You see, that is the meaning of honor – to show respect.

Christians are certainly to be those who show honor to God in our worship and life. That is not what this particular article is about. Nevertheless, as Christians we must understand that God expects us to show honor and have attitudes of respect in many areas.

The Aged

Our society fails to honor the elderly. We lay them off from jobs, rejecting their wisdom and canceling their retirement incomes because it makes a better bottom-line for the company. We give preference to the younger ages in following trends and opinions. Everything seems to revolve around beauty and youth. This is probably also not new, but it is decidedly American.

“You shall rise up before the grayheaded and honor the aged” (Lev. 19:32). When was the last time you saw people literally stand up to honor those who were older – perhaps when they entered a room, or were trying to crawl across a pew? It should trouble us to see younger folks who move faster, run forward to get in line before one who is older. This is not showing honor.

While opening doors for those who are older has not disappeared, it has grown less common. Respectful titles (sir and ma'am) are words not used frequently enough for many who are older to feel as if they are honored.

There is a reason Paul wrote to Timothy (the young preacher) saying, “*Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father...*” (1 Tim. 5:1). Even if our older brother is wrong, even in sin, we are still to maintain a respectful attitude of honor toward him. God will judge us for this.

Marriage

Marriage is disdained by close to half our society's population. They think it is unnecessary and choose to just live together. It is not a relationship which demands commitment, but one which holds the expectation of cheating and divorce after just a few years. God says, *"Marriage is to be held in honor among all"* (Heb. 13:4). We still tend to honor those who have been married for a long time, particularly as they celebrate anniversaries, yet the general attitude toward marriage is growing toward contempt. The believer's attitude must be one that believes it is honorable.

The King

Though some may not like it, as Christians we are to show respect and honor toward the authorities of our country. This is regardless of whether we agree with their actions, their policies or their personal morals. Showing honor for "the King" is an expectation of God from his children (1 Peter 2:17). This is not to mean we cannot "voice our opinion" in a society that allows a democratic process, but rather, when we do so we must continue to be respectful of the position he or she holds in the society.

Parents

Parents will never be honored if they do not raise their children with the expectation of being respectful. This is a problem for many parents today. God expects parents to raise children to understand His ways. But the child will eventually grow to an age of choice. It is then God expects the child to show honor to the parents (Ex. 20:12; Mal. 1:6). This would be especially true during our teenage years when it is probably hardest.

Elders

1 Tim. 5:17 tells us that some elders are worthy of double honor. This implies all faithful Elders are worthy of honor for the job they do and for the example they are to us.

Conclusion

In every relationship we show honor through listening and obedience. Submission is giving deference to another. It is a sign of respect. Consider: do we regularly show honor to those to whom God says honor is due? We will give answer to God in the judgment for such attitudes. May we ever strive to please Him who offers us salvation. May we ever honor Him through obedience in all things.

By Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Battles Won Supernaturally

1. What prophet's word caused the Syrian soldiers to be struck blind?
2. What nation's army was destroyed in the Red Sea?
3. What was Israel fighting when Moses' arms, held aloft, caused Israel to win?
4. What weather phenomenon did the Lord use to defeat the Amorites?
5. What did Joshua speak to the Lord about which caused them to defeat the Amorites?

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.



Knowing God Through The Word

Series #2 of 5

"God is spirit" (John 4:24), but God does not want to remain hidden from mankind. He has revealed Himself through His creation (last week's article), and through His words to mankind. God has revealed a lot about Himself, but we must hear and/or read to learn about Him.

"All Scripture is inspired by God..." (2 Timothy 3:16). It all comes from His breath, His mouth. Moses told the Israelites, *"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law"* (Deuteronomy 29:29). At the end of his life, *"...Moses commanded them, saying, 'At the end of every seven years, at the time of the year of remission of debts, at the Feast of Booths, when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God at the place which He will choose, you shall read this law in front of all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the alien who is in your town, so that they may hear and learn and fear the Lord your God, and be careful to observe all the words of this law'"* (Deuteronomy 31:1–12). By inspiration of God Moses taught the need to hear the word, and obey it.

Though we live in a country where most people are literate, most do not read Scripture. One of the driving reasons why belief in God and His Son Jesus has diminished in our country is because we do not read Scripture. *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ"* (Romans 10:17). John taught the same principle saying, *"...these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name"* (John 20:31).

God does not want to remain hidden. He is not keeping himself from men today. Some wonder why He doesn't reveal Himself to men (supposedly) like He did during Old Testament times. But God has revealed all He plans to reveal. God has seen fit to proclaim it to men through the prophets (2 Peter 1:20–21) and apostles. *"By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit"* (Ephesians 3:4). Miraculous revelation ceased when the perfect came, which is the written word (1 Corinthians 13:8-13). We no longer know "in part" but can fully know.

This is why we must view Scripture as our authority. God has revealed Himself and how to please Him. *"His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence"* (1 Peter 1:3).

If we do not know God, it is not God's lack of effort, but ours.

Charles Willis