

**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. Gideon (Jude 6:17)
2. Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2:47)
3. Nathan (2 Samuel 12:7)
4. Job (16:2)
5. David (2 Samuel 1:27)

**This Week's Assignments & Events**

**Sunday Worship**

Greeter: Ronnie Lightfoot  
Announcements: Ryan Haarmann  
Encouragement Talk: Brad Smith  
Opening Prayer: Tyler Blazek  
Scripture Reading: John Franks  
2 Timothy 2:1-13  
Song Leader: Jacob McAdams  
Table Talk: Harper Flores  
Contribution: Todd McAdams  
Helper: Kyle Crain  
Fruit of Vine: Josh Emerson  
Helper: Verlin Wilson  
Helper: Jonathan Lovell  
Closing Prayer: Brad Smith

**Sunday Afternoons**

Apr 28 3PM Classroom Quarter Change  
May 5 3PM Men's Meeting  
May 12 Nothing  
May 19 3PM Devotionals

**Wednesday Evening**

Song Leader: Harper Flores  
Speaker: Eddie Bowen



# 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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## If You Had Been A First Century Christian

Have you ever tried to picture yourself as being a Christian during the first century? This study asks some questions to see how you would respond had you been living at that time

**1. Would You Have Been One?** Not everyone in New Testament times obeyed the gospel (Rom. 10:16). Would you have been willing to do the things required to become a Christian? It was necessary for one to hear the gospel (Acts 2:22), believe in Christ (Jno. 8:24), repent of your sins (Acts 17:30), make a public confession that you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:37), and be baptized in water *“for the remission of your sins”* (Acts 2:38), to be in Christ (Gal. 3:27), and in His body, the church (1 Cor. 12:13; Col. 1:24).

**2. Would You Have Been Content To Be A Member Of The Church Of Christ?** Those in the first century, who obeyed the gospel, were *“added”* to the church of Christ, by the Lord Himself (Acts 2:47). In fact, this was the only church in existence at the time! Paul refers to *“the churches of Christ”* (Rom. 16:16). These churches were various local congregations of the church of Christ, they taught the same thing and followed the pattern of worship and work given to them by the apostles who were led by the Holy Spirit.

**3. Would You Have Been Just A Christian?** Folks in the first century were just Christians. It had been prophesied that God would give His people a new name (Isa. 56:5; 62:2; 65:15). This took place just after *“the Gentiles saw God’s righteousness”* (Acts chs. 10 and 11). *“And the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch”* (Acts 11:26). Christians were what Paul tried to persuade men to be (Acts 26:28). Peter penned: *“Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name”* (1 Pet. 4:16).

**4. Would You Have Been Satisfied To Be Among The Few, And Not Follow The Multitude?** Some today are not content to be in such a small group; they prefer to be counted with the greater numbers. The Lord’s people have always been among the few, or in the minority. It is written in the fifth book of Moses *“The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were fewest of all”*

people” (Deut. 7:7). Jesus put it this way: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way; which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:13,14).

**5. Would You Have Worshipped Like The Lord Arranged?** God has always regulated how He wants men to worship. Under the first covenant God said; “*Thou shalt have no other gods before Me...*” (Exo. 20:3-5). First century Christians were told; “*God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth*” (Jno. 4:24). In fact, “*they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and prayers*” (Acts 2:42). The prophet of old wrote: “*in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto Thee*” (Heb. 2:12).

**6. Would You Have Done Just The Work God Planned For Christians To Do In The Church Of Christ?** Few, today, seem to be content to just do the work God planned for the church to do! Spiritual work is divided into two parts: (a) the work of individual Christians, like those in Acts 8:5, “*Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the Word.*” They shared with others (Acts 4:32). They also edified others (Gal. 6:1,2). (b) Then the church engaged in evangelism, benevolence, and edification (Eph. 4:12,16; 1 Thes.; 1:8; Acts 6:1-6; 11:27-30; Phil. 4:15,16).

**7. Would You Have Tried To Involve The Church In Social Affairs?** There is no indication that first century Christians built and maintained family life centers, recreational halls, kitchens, gyms, and the like. They only established churches of Christ (Rom. 16:16). In fact, Paul informed the Romans, “*For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit*” (Rom. 14:17). When the Corinthians tried to turn the Lord’s Supper into a drunken feast, Paul reminded them, saying: “*What? Have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? Or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that not? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I praise ye not*” (1 Cor. 11:22). Then he said: “*And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come*” (1 Cor. 11:34).

By Johnie Edwards

## Know Your Bible

### Who Said It?

1. If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who speak with me.
2. Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery.
3. You are the man!
4. Sorry comforters are you all.
5. How have the mighty fallen.

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.



## All Things Are Laid Bare

by Charles Willis

*“There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do” (Hebrews 4:13).*

All things are “open” to God- literally meaning naked, stripped. Nothing is covered or hidden to God. All things are “laid bare” to God. This is from the Greek word meaning “neck” and means the neck has been bent back. This was often done to an animal for slaughter and sacrifice. God is in complete control. “*With whom we have to do*” is also translated to whom “*we must give account*” (KJ, NIV). We must answer to God. He will hold us accountable at the judgment. These truths (stated very simply and quickly) should lead us to conclude that we need to live in righteousness and obedience before God. We also MUST understand this has to include what we do in private.

*“If we had forgotten the name of our God or extended our hands to a strange god, Would not God find this out? He knows the secrets of the heart” (Psalm 44:20-21).*

*“You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence” (Psalm 90:8).*

*“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Watching the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3).*

*“Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares the Lord. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the Lord” (Jeremiah 23:24).*

*“For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the Lord, And He watches all his paths” (Proverbs 5:21).*

*“be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:33).*

*“God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:14).*

Are you living in secret sin? We can fool everyone, but not God. All things are open and laid bare to God. “*Each one of us will give an account of himself to God*” (Romans 14:12). “*The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But He loves one who pursues righteousness.*” (Proverbs 15:9).