

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. Paul (Acts 17:28)
2. Moses (Numbers 32:23)
3. David (1 Kings 2:2-3)
4. Job (14:14)
5. Solomon (1 Kings 8:56)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Lester Mabry
Announcements: Tyler Blazek
Encouragement Talk: John Franks
Opening Prayer: Arturo Orozco
Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen
2 Tim. 4:1-8
Song Leader: Billy Lovell
Table Talk: Charles Willis
Contribution:
Helper: Kevin Buckner
Fruit of Vine:
Helper: John Van Baale
Helper: Sandon Spyker
Closing Prayer: Ronnie Ramsey

Sunday Afternoons

May 26 Parent Planned Youth Devotional
June 2 3PM Encouragement (cards and calls)
June 9 Nothing
June 16 Parent Planned Youth Devotional

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Kevin Buckner
Speaker: John Van Baale



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 Security Of God's Law

Taking a look at the religious world today will quickly point out that there are two methods by the world for establishing religious authority. A few religious groups demand authority must be derived from Scripture while the majority agree authority for religious practice and belief is achieved by a majority vote or a decree of a council.

There are some inherent problems in gaining authority by vote or decree. The most obvious is that the vote may change or even vacillate! People quickly become confused not knowing what is right, what is acceptable in God's sight.

A person could suddenly, overnight, be found in error when his practice was always accepted as right. Spanking your child as discipline could suddenly be wrong when it has been accepted as a righteous act since time began (Prov. 23:13-14). Concepts of modesty can be turned on their head. Open fellowship with differing doctrines can now be considered right. Even the very concept of finding authority from the Bible can now be voted as wrong and unacceptable by God.

A person could also suddenly be found right when his practice was always accepted as error. That's exactly the case with the now accepted practice of homosexuality in religion. That's exactly what has happened with women becoming evangelists and elders in churches. That's been the case in the past where baptism included sprinkling and pouring. These are not new ideas, they're very old and seemingly established in the minds of many.

Another problems is that the vote or degree of a council may not reflect God's choice. How can we decide what pleases God? For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? (1 Cor. 2:16). It is presumptuous and deadly for man to step in and degree what God accepts.

It is much more likely under this type of thinking that we will “tickle” our own ears (2 Tim. 4:3) voting for things that align themselves with our wants and lusts. We’ll choose what need to be voted on. We’ll choose who votes. We’ll choose. Sounds like a biased system doesn’t it?

A third and most important problem with gaining religious authority by a vote is simply that it is unscriptural. It goes beyond the authorization of the church. No where in Scripture do we see anyone exercising oversight of multiple congregations. No where do we see representatives casting a vote to decide what’s right. No where is there a scene depicting man determining what God’s Law is.

Instead, what we see from Scripture is: God has told us what’s right and wrong. *“There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death”* (Prov. 14:12). Moses told the Israelites in Deuteronomy 6:17–18 “You should diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you. 18 You shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with you...”, As the author of salvation God has all “author-ity” to tell us what is right. A voting council does not.

In contrast, consider that God never changes. What’s right in His sight will always be right in His sight. Those things that are condemned as sinful will always be considered sinful. God’s purpose in unchangeable (Heb. 6:17). God’s law is His choice - not man’s. He has told us what will please Him. *“For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ”* (1 Cor. 2:16). The word of God IS the mind of Christ. We know what pleases Him. Finally, looking to God’s word is the Scriptural way to achieve authority. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life: “no one comes to the Father but through Me” (John 14:6). There is salvation in no other (Acts 4:12)! Looking to God’s law and obeying insures we are right in His sight!

By Charles Willis, November 26, 2000

## ***Know Your Bible***

### **Who Said It?**

1. For in Him we live, and move, and have our being.
2. Be sure your sin will find you out.
3. Be strong, therefore, and show yourself a man. Keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways.
4. If a man dies, will he live again?
5. Not one word has failed of all His good promise.

*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.



## ***Wisdom From An Old Man***

by Charles Willis

When I first began preaching in Knoxville, Tennessee, we had an older retired couple worshiping with us. They were both very faithful believers. The husband dealt with ongoing pain, but was almost always present. He spoke his mind, and at times was blunt. Some thought of him as being a bit mean (though I did not). In 2001 I asked him to write an article for the bulletin on any topic he chose. Here is an excerpt of that article, titled “Constant Bickering.”

“According to Thorndike dictionary, bickering is a quarrel, babble, or patter. This has caused a lot of unkind words and differences of opinion in the church. It is unnecessary and should be settled as quickly as possible.

As an example, this was told to me several years ago by a well known gospel preacher. He and another young man had just been appointed deacons in a congregation and were still young enough to feel like they had all the answers. In a meeting with the elders in regard to some remodeling and repairs that needed doing in the church building, these two and some others were in a lively discussion outtalking the elders on how the work was to be done. After some time, one of the elders asked the young men to step out in the hall for a few minutes. While they were out, the elders decided what and how the work was to be done. He said that might not have been the best way to solve the debate, but it worked and all arguments were settled quickly.

I have seen brothers hold to the bitter end trying to get their ideas and opinions agreed to. Some never give up, just carried the load always... Young Christians especially need to learn to give up on opinions and to agree with each other on spiritual matters. (Older Christians should have already learned this.”

Bible references for your study: Eph. 4:31–32; Col. 3:8; 1 Tim. 2:8; James 1:19–20; John 6:43; 1 Cor. 10:10; Jude 16; John 7:12; Acts 6:1; Phil. 2:14.”

When I first read this (as a younger man), my entire perspective toward this older brother changed. My respect for him grew a lot, as well as my love for him. In the following years I came to see how much he greatly loved God and stood for the word of God. Do not ever underestimate your influence on others. All of us are to be an influence for good, to encourage each other, and to help each other walk in faith. I knew brother Harold Headrick as an old man, but I also knew him to be a man who had wisdom. We can all learn from what he wrote, if we will take it to heart.