

**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. Gideon (Judges 8:30)
2. Ham (Genesis 9:18-24)
3. David (1 Samuel 17:12-14)
4. Jacob & Esau (Genesis 25:23-26)
5. Eli (1 Samuel 3:13)
6. Samuel (1 Samuel 3:13)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Ronnie Ramsey
Announcements: Josh Emerson
Encouragement Talk: Kyle Crain
Opening Prayer: John Van Baale
Scripture Reading: Arturo Orozco
Luke 5:12-16
Song Leader: John Franks
Table Talk: Sandon Spyker
Contribution: Kevin Buckner
Helper: Aaron Heald
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Truett Blazek
Helper: Ronnie Lightfoot
Closing Prayer: Billy Scherry

Sunday Afternoons

Dec 15 Nothing
Dec. 22 Nothing
Dec. 29 Nothing
Jan. 5 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Arturo Orozco
Speaker: Kevin Buckner



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 21
Number 49
December 8, 2024

Ownership

Looking at the signs of religious houses quickly leads us to understand some are saying ‘I am of Luther,’ ‘I am of Calvin,’ ‘I am of Buddha,’ and many others. Paul teaches on the problems of religious division in 1 Corinthians 1. The basic problem was the people had forgotten who the owner was.

Jesus understood the principle of ownership when He told Peter *“upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it”* (Matthew 16:18). Jesus says the church belongs to Him - it is “My” church. Christ is the head of the church (Ephesians 5:23) and as such has all authority to command His possession. The worship, organization, and mission of the church are all determined by the word of Christ. To do otherwise is depending on the words of men governing Christ’s possession. None of us in this life want to surrender our authority over our possessions to another man. Why do we think Jesus is pleased when we usurp His authority in determining the doctrine or worship of the church? He has the authority because the church belongs to Him. He paid the price by purchasing the church “with His own blood” (Acts 20:28).

Since the church is a collection of saved believers, we understand that Christ has purchased each one of us individually and that His blood does not save a congregation, but the individuals which comprise it. As Head of the church (Ephesians 1:22) He is the King of our lives. He is the originators of the laws we live by and His word is the standard by which we shall be judged (John 12:48). We *“are now the people of God”* (1 Peter 2:10). The King James version says we are “a peculiar people” (1 Peter 2:9) where the New American Standard says we *“are a people for God’s own possession.”* God owns us. We are His possession through the cleansing blood of Jesus. Just as our physical children are our possession, the saved believers are *“the children of God; and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ”* (Romans 8:16-17). We do not have

the freedom to determine our own morality. We are “subject to Christ” (Ephesians 5:24), not just as a collective body of believers but also individually.

Our children have their own will. As our possession they sometimes do things contrary to our instructions. We show patience, we discipline and we expect them to obey! God is no different regarding His possession. Jesus says, *“the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.”* (John 12:48). The standard which we individually live by is the word of God which has come to us through Jesus. When we attempt to use our own standard rather than God’s standard, we are not listening to the instructions! When we change God’s written commands to justify our feelings of what is right, we deny the authority of Christ as head of the church! When we ignore any truth found in Scripture, we are refusing Christ! As God’s possession we should earnestly seek to serve Him and follow His will. That is the function of a servant - to please the master! Paul illustrates this point vividly by saying, *“do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body”* (1 Corinthians 6:19–20). The very use of our own body, which we would say is our most prized possession, Paul declares is not ours, but God’s. We should use it to glorify God. When we do not, God is displeased, but has promised forgiveness if we will repent (2 Corinthians 7:19–20). God is *“patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance”* (2 Peter 3:9). He disciplines His children through the Word and expects us to obey Him.

God owns the universe. God has made Jesus head of the church. We belong to Christ (1 Corinthians 3:23). We are the Church of Christ. I am not my own, God owns me. Let us live properly as the servant of God.

by Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Children

1. What judge had 70 sons?
2. Who was Noah’s youngest son?
3. What Israelite King was the youngest of 8 brothers?
4. Who were the first twins mentioned in the Bible?
5. What priest was too indulgent toward his spoiled sons?
6. Which prophet had dishonest sons who took bribes?

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.



Proper Attitudes Toward Sin

Admit It

1 John 1:8–10; James 1:13–16

Hate It

Jude 23; Revelation 2:6; Proverbs 6:16–19

Abhor It

Romans 12:9 - literally to “shrink” from it

Abstain From It

1 Thessalonians 5:22; 4:3; 1 Peter 2:11; Acts 15:29

Flee From It

2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Timothy 6:11; 1 Corinthians 6:18

Pray About It

Matthew 6:13; 26:41; Mark 14:38; Luke 22:40, 46

Resist It

James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8–9; Hebrews 12:4; Ephesians 6:13

Expose It

2 Timothy 4:1–2; Titus 1:3; Ephesians 5:11

Overcome It

Mark 9:43–48; Revelation 2:7, 11, 26; 3:5, 12, 21