

# The Old Hickory Bulletin

## *Old Hickory Church of Christ*

841 Old Hickory Blvd.

Jackson, TN 38305

[oldhickorycofc.com](http://oldhickorycofc.com)

---

February 10, 2013

Volume 33, # 07

---

## The New Name

In foretelling of things as they would be, the prophet Isaiah wrote: "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory; and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name" (Isa. 62:2). Let us give some careful consideration about this new name the Lord would give.

This name is the name "Christian." "And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 11:26). It is significant that the church in Antioch, which included many Gentile converts, fulfilled this prophecy of Isaiah.

The name "Christian" is the name in which God is glorified. "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. But if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf" (I Pet. 4:15-16). The name Christian glorifies God because it contains the name of Christ (I Pet. 4:14, 16).

This is why human names are to be rejected; none of them serves to glorify God. The name "Christian" does, for it was given by God, a "new

name" as Isaiah prophesied. It is also a name that contains the name of his only begotten Son, "Christ," who came to this earth to do nothing more or less than the will of his Father (John 5:30).

- Bart Campbell

---

## *Why are we here?*

Why is man on this earth? What is his purpose? Why did God create man?

In Isaiah 43, where God expresses His goodwill to His people, the prophet Isaiah directs their attention to remember that He is their Creator and Redeemer (Isa. 43:1). Not only has He created them in His image, as is true of all men (Gen. 1:27), but also, "In His love and in His mercy He redeemed them" (Isa. 63:9), such that He could say, "I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!" (43:1).

Isaiah continues: "I will be with you ..." (43:2), "I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior ..." (43:3), "... you are precious in My sight, ... you are honored and I love you, ..." (43:4). These words are some of the most affectionate expressions toward God's children that are recorded in the Bible. Today also, these cherished words are indicative of His faithfulness: "... '*I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,*' so that we confidently say, '*THE LORD IS MY HELPER,*' ..." (Heb. 13:5b-6a).

To people on God's earth, who "believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him," (Heb. 11:6), God is honored as Creator and Redeemer! In that honor, God's children live in harmony with His purpose for them. Let us ask Isaiah why God has created and redeemed His people. He expresses that purpose clearly: "Everyone who

is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.” (43:7). Note carefully the truth, **“created for My glory!”** People with strictly selfish objectives in life will miss this indication.

God’s people will recognize: “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.” (Rev. 4:11). God’s people choose to live lives that bring glory to Him. Others, who do not honor God and do not give thanks to Him are foolish, dark-hearted people, who do not acknowledge God, and they do things that are not proper (Rom. 1:21-32).

God’s people, those called after the name of His Son, “are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.” (Eph. 2:10). God’s purpose for man can be seen clearly when one examines the life of His Son, Jesus Christ. Peter said that God’s people were “called for this purpose” with regard to honoring authority in a righteous way, even if it brought suffering. He left an “example” for us to “follow in His steps.” He willingly participated in God’s plan (Heb. 5:8-9) to save men from the consequences of their sins “so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.” Peter said, He is the “Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.” (1 Pet. 2:21-25). God’s people walk in a way that fulfills their purpose in life: **to glorify God!**

Their lifestyles are not what they once were; their ethical and moral behavior is characteristic of people living a new life in Christ (Rom. 6:4; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24). They walk in good works, as defined by God, and thus bring glory to Him “in the church” (Eph. 3:21). Men cannot glorify God by walking in a manner or relationship that differs from God’s purpose and design for people who belong to Him (cf. Eccl. 12:13).

Friend, what about you? Are you living the life that brings glory to God? Is Jesus Christ your example? Do you walk in good works? Do you obey the

source of eternal salvation? Are you glorifying Him in the church? Can we help you?

- GFS

---

## CHARACTER

Character is the combination of qualities that distinguish one person from others around him. It is the moral and ethical strength in a person which lays the foundation for a *great* and democratic society. A person with strong character cannot be fraudulent, because he cannot fake character. A reputation is what people think you are, but character is what you truly are. No one has to look to see whether or not a person possesses character. For you can see his character through his dependability, honesty, diligence, friendliness, maturity, patriotism, consideration, sincerity and humility.

One must work to build character. No one is born with it. It is obtained through one's daily habits and through reactions toward his environment. Character has long been the most cherished of all possessions. It can be lost but never stolen. Character is comparable to learning; just as one never stops learning, one never stops building character.

A person with true character is never afraid to break away from the crowd if he feels that his own beliefs and morals contradict how his peers feel. He is not about to be led as a sheep over the cliff, merely because the others are headed in that direction. He would rather be hated for what he is, than to be liked for what he is not. He can act independently as well as within the group. He shows initiative and takes prompt action, instead of sitting timidly waiting for another to make the first move. He is forever humble but never bashful. He can accept praise and compliments with humility, and can return them with sincerity. He does not allow his accomplishments to prevent him from taking out time to help someone who is stumbling over a problem which might seem to be trivial to him.

He is willing to accept responsibilities, and does his best to carry out his duties above what is required and expected of him. His persistent effort enables him to hurdle barriers to which many succumb. He accepts people for what they are; not how he wishes they were. But, although he may accept people as they are, he is never too complacent to accept a current trend which he may be violently opposed to. He is constantly asking questions, seeking to find better ways to improve the changing world around him; but he will never criticize any problem unless he can suggest a possible alternative.

It is very easy to write down the qualifications for having good character, but it is a great deal harder to demonstrate them yourself. As Thomas Jefferson said, "Accept the ways of others, but first accept your own."

- Greg Finkler, High School senior, 1973

---

> "No virtue is more universally accepted as a test of good character than trustworthiness."

> "The consequence of having told a lie is not only the lie itself, but that henceforth no one can have full confidence in anything that you say."

---

**THIS WEEK'S LESSONS:** Sunday morning: "*Who Keeps The Church Alive?*" (text: Phil. 1:3-7); Sunday evening: "*I Am Resolved ...!*" (Psalms 9:1-2).

**SCHEDULE:** Our Fall Gospel Meeting will be July 28 – Aug. 2, Sun. regular times, M-F at 7:00 p.m., with Tanner Campbell, of Piggott, AR.