



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 37

January 20, 2019

Number 3

Schedule of Services

- **Sunday**
Bible Classes
10:00 am
Morning Worship
10:45 am
Evening Worship
6:00 pm
- **Wednesday**
Bible Classes 7:00 pm

Elders

- Mike Ernstberger
270-753-2108 Home
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg
270-759-2145 Home
270-293-2319 Cell

Deacons

- Larry Enoch
- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster
MSOP—Bradley Smith

Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ
3980 Murray Paris Road
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- Email: greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org

PLAY OR SING IN WORSHIP? By Jonnie Hutchison

For many years there has been a constant controversy regarding the question of whether or not mechanical instrumental music is acceptable in the worship of the church that belongs to Jesus Christ. The question has been discussed by capable men in many public debates. It has been the subject of lectureships, sermons and Bible class studies. Many an individual Christian has spent hours researching and studying what the Bible says about the matter. One would think the question of whether instrumental music is acceptable in the worship of the Lord's church would have been satisfactorily settled long ago. But with each new generation the question rises again.

What is "mechanical instrumental music?" Simply answered it is music produced by mechanical means—that is, by musical instruments such as organs, pianos, guitars, brass or wind instruments. Such instruments are inanimate objects. In order to produce music, these instruments must be physically played by someone trained to play them.

Question: Is it possible for mechanical instruments of music to vocalize or sing words? No,

mechanical instruments play notes, they do not sing words. This is the obvious distinction between two different types of music, namely, playing and singing.

Does the Bible give the church permission to play mechanical instruments in worship to God **unaccompanied** by the singing of words? Ephesians 5:19 reads, "*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*" Is it possible for a mechanical instrument to fulfill this obligation? No, mechanical instruments can neither sing nor make melody in the heart to the Lord for such instruments are nothing more than inanimate objects. They cannot fulfill the obligations of this passage.

What about singing with the accompaniment of instrumental music—is that authorized by God? Since mechanical instruments can neither sing nor make melody in the heart to the Lord they produce no spiritual benefit when added to the singing. Instead they constitute a man-made addition to the type of music God

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NEWS AND NOTES

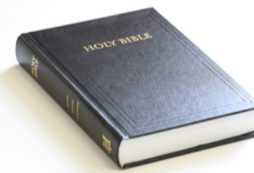
- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Green Plain members*:** Paul Brandon Lori Brandon, Peggy Jarvis, Rex and Margaret Enoch, Will Ed Travis , Mary Crutchfield, Vickie and Kaitlyn Canter, Tina Wyatt, Joanne Barnes. Frank Towery, Maxine Pool, Nancy Meacham, Hayes Grady, Carolyn Bryars, Marjorie Grady, Mary Lowrie, Mary Vincent, Jesse Vincent, and Jim Fielder. Larry Enoch is home recovering from surgery.
- **Family and Friends:** Betty Pond, Naomi Pigg, Byron White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Anna Arrant (Hospice House in Murray), Walter Bryars, Ann Workman, Mike and Dollie Kiser, Will and Nancy Winchester, Dean Carroll, Maryanne Stubblefield, Annie Lyons, Kenzie Murdock, Brandon Wiggins, Jim Hutson, Amy Lyons, Janice Canter, Maryanne Pedigrew and Dale Foster. If you know of those who need to be added or removed from our prayer list please write down their names and hand it to Jonnie.
- **Pantry items for January:** 6—Apple sauce; 13—Green Beans; 20—Green Peas; 27—Pinto Beans.
- Please remember our **snacks for the hospital program** and place your items in the baskets in the lobby.
- **PASS IT ON!** When you have finished reading this bulletin, why not pass it on to a loved one, friend or neighbor. Use this as a tool to spread the gospel. Or, pick up extra copies to hand or mail to others.
- **See our Facebook page** for announcements, updates and articles. Access to past editions of this bulletin are available on our website at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.
- **Mission Work:** Please continue to pray for the preachers this congregation is supporting in India and for Dale Foster, Ronnie Gootan, David Nance and Mike Kiser in their respective works.
- Watch **“A Bible Answer”** each Sunday morning at 8:00 am on WQWQ TV in Paducah, KY. This program is also available on their website at abibleanswertv.org and on GBN and YouTube.
- **January 2019 Anniversaries:** Carolyn & Walter Byars 1-27; **Birthdays:** Marjorie Grady 1-26; Ruthie Sales 1-10; Shane Smith 1-14; Karen Workman 1-18. If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- “God answers knee-mail.”
- “Where will you be seated in eternity? Smoking or non-smoking?”
- “If God is your Copilot - you're in the wrong seat!”



BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

This Week: *What is significant about the cities of Admah and Zeboim?*

Last Week: *Who is called “the Word” in the New Testament and where is this reference found? Jesus Christ is called “the Word” in John 1:1-2.*



LESSONS TODAY

Sunday AM
Bradley Smith

Sunday PM
“Seven Laws to Pray By”

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authorizes the church to use in worship to Him. The only way one may fulfill the obligation to make melody in the heart to the Lord is through singing, not playing a mechanical instrument. God has always forbidden men to add to or take from His Word (Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6; Gal. 1:6-9; Rev. 22:18-19).

To the church in Colossi the inspired Paul wrote, *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.** And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him”* (Colossians 3:16-17). Is it possible for a mechanical instrument of music to fulfill the obligation given in this passage to “teach and admonish one another?” Of

course not! Such is only accomplished through singing the words of songs, hymns and spiritual songs as this verse instructs. Again, there is no spiritual benefit derived from adding mechanical instruments of music to our singing in worship.

God does not intend the worship of the church to be mechanical but spiritual. That is why the New Testament authorizes singing and not playing. Our worship is to be from the heart—from our spirit to God who is a Spirit (John 4:24). Mechanical instruments of music corrupt worship and their use is sinful for they are used without divine authority and constitute an addition to what God has commanded. Our plea and prayer is that all would come back to the simple and spiritual worship God has authorized for the church as revealed in the New Testament of Jesus Christ.

GOD IS STILL . . . By David Sproule

Job said it well, “Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble” (Job 14:1). Our life on this earth is limited and short (in comparison to the big picture), but it seems our troubles are anything but limited. Job not only conceded that we have “turmoil” (NASB) in our lives, but that our days are “full of turmoil.” Do you ever feel that way?

The trouble with the “trouble” of life is that it seems to know no boundaries. It can involve our health, our family, our children, our job, our finances, our friends, our faith, etc., etc., which all affect our emotional stability. We get bad news about an unexpected diagnosis, a terminal illness, a sudden death, loss of a job, a friend going through hard times. “Trouble” seems to be all around us. And even if nothing is “going wrong” at the moment, for some of us it may be the loneliness and separation that we are experiencing has filled us with “trouble.” One of the worst things about “trouble” in our lives is that it doesn’t know when to stop.

So what can I do? When my life is full of turmoil, what can I do? May I suggest that you pick up the remote control of your life and hit “Pause” for just a second. I know that our “trouble” will hit the “un-pause” soon after, but take a moment to reflect upon and to remember...God.

In the midst of trouble, God is still...God! “Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God” (Psa. 90:2).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...with you! “The Lord your God is with you wherever

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COME VISIT WITH US

The church building is located southeast of Murray one mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads. We look forward to seeing you! A warm and friendly welcome awaits!

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you go” (Josh. 1:9).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...faithful! “The Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one” (2 Thess. 3:3).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...love! “We have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love” (1 John 4:16).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...full of compassion! “The Lord is gracious...full of compassion...great in mercy...good to all” (Psa. 145:8-9).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...greater! “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

In the midst of trouble, God is still...able! “To Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Eph. 3:20).

Whatever our trouble is, in the grand scheme it is actually small (2 Cor. 4:17) and temporary (Rom. 8:18). But remember, God is NOT small and God is NOT temporary! Trust Him! Love Him! He cares for you! He will see you through!



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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

January 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bobby Hall
PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S TABLE
AM: Mike Ernstberger & James Pigg
Substitute: Jim Lowrie

ASSIST AT THE LORD'S TABLE:
AM: Dave Thompson & Perry Jarvis
Substitute: Chad Canter

Sunday PM

6—Mike
13—James
20—Mike
27—James

OPENING PRAYER:

6—Bobby Hall
13—Jonnie Hutchison
20—Hayes Grady
27—Jim Lowrie

CLOSING PRAYER:

6—Chad Canter
13—Roy Wyatt
20—Preston Barrett
27—Dave Thompson

COUNT CONTRIBUTION:

Dave Thompson & Charles Enoch

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS

London & Peyton

SONG LEADERS:

Sunday Morning: /Charles Enoch
Sunday Evening: Perry Jarvis
Wednesday: Mike Ernstberger
Substitute: Chad Canter

USHER: Chad Canter

Lawn Care: N/A

If you are unable to serve, please contact Chad Canter at 270-873-7509

Thank YOU For Serving!!