

# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

October 4, 2020

Number 40

## Schedule of Services

- 10:00 AM Sunday
  Worship
- 7:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study

#### 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, David

Nance. and Ronnie Gootam McKenzie, TN—Paul Jones

#### Location

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

## **KEEP YOUR LIGHT SHINING** - Jonathan Burns

A father and his two songs had tended to the beacon of their lighthouse for many years. One night they trimmed the lights as usual, checked every detail, and

settled themselves for an evening of peace and quiet. Just before they retired, the eldest son made the rounds again and was perplexed to see no path of light flashing from the beacon. Then it was discovered that the

wind had carried millions of tiny insects which covered the glass so thickly that the light could not shine through. The men hurriedly cleaned the glass, but not in time, for morning disclosed a serious wreck had occurred early that evening on the rocks close to the shore. The covering of our lights as Christians, even for a short time, may mean the destruction of a soul (ours and others). Jesus had this in mind when He taught His disciples to be like a city set upon a hill which could be seen by all, and warned them against covering their lights with a basket. To avoid this problem, He



light to all who are in the house (Matthew 5:14-16). One cannot let his or her light shine for the Lord until being added to God's family. Without Christ, there is

only darkness in our lives, and this darkness makes it easy to hate the light (John 3:19-20). It is dangerous to remain in darkness, because the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). It is simply time to do what

is right. May I be honest with you? I mean really honest. It is my personal belief that Jesus was serious when He said that few will find the way unto Heaven (Matthew 7:13-14). Jesus was teaching this group of people to learn, understand, and become an eternity focused individual. Many times I believe that we give up because it is easier to walk with the world and look like them. However we do not realize that when we walk with the world we are covering up our light and the influence of Jesus is darkened from those around us. May we love God and live like Christ.

|  | commanded them to let their lights be as a lampstand that gives | -East Hill church of Christ |
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#### NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** <u>Green Plain members</u>: Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, and Carolyn Byars. <u>Family and Friends</u>: Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, , Janice Canter, Dale Foster, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Pat Hocking, Sandra Cook Downs, Hollis Stubblefield, Kevin Smith, Walter Lee Steely and Carol Pigg. We were saddened to learn of the death of Teresa Powers from the Covid-19 virus. Teresa was the wife of Larry Powers who preaches for the church in Sharon, TN. Please pray for Larry, his family and the congregation at Sharon.

- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** We resumed meeting last Wednesday evening for Bible study. We will continue to meet each Sunday morning at 10:00 am for worship. Please continue to observe all safety measures.
- **DIRECTORY UPDATE**: Preston Barrett 696 Utterback Road—Murray, KY 42071. Phone: 270-226-4853.
- <u>PANTRY ITEMS</u> October 2020: 4—Canned Tomatoes 11—Spaghetti Sauce; 18— Canned Peas; 25—Tuna. Please bring any additional items you wish for the "blessing box" which is located next to the breezeway on the north side of the building.
- <u>See our Facebook page</u> for announcements, updates and articles. Access to past editions of this bulletin are available on our website at http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org.
- <u>Mission Work</u>: Please continue to pray for the preachers this congregation is supporting in India and for Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- October 2020 <u>Anniversaries</u>: 21-Chad & Vickie Canter. <u>Birthdays</u>: 8—Jim Fielder; 18— Perry Jarvis; 29—Bobby Hall; If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- We offer <u>FREE BIBLE CORRECPONDENCE COURSES</u> through the mail. Enroll on our website or send your name and return mailing address to the address on the first page of this bulletin. You may also call 270-978-7569 or you may email us at greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org.

ONLINE SPIRITUAL RESOURCES Gospel Broadcasting Network https://gbntv.org/

World Video Bible School https://store.wvbs.org/wvbs-splashpage.html

> A Bible Answer https://abibleanswertv.org/

> > Good News Today http://gnttv.org/



<u>This Week</u>: Upon what day in history did the church of Christ come into existence?

*Last Week:* Why was Jesus baptized? *Answer:* Jesus was baptized to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matt. 3:13-15).

In Search of the Lord's Way http://searchtv.org/

## **DOYOU REALLY WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN?** - Jonnie Hutchison

If you have been around members of the Lord's church for long, you have probably heard someone say, "Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people." This statement is true. Shortly before His death, Jesus said, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to **prepare** a place for you. And if I go and **prepare** a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2-3). The lives we live on this earth have a very important purpose and that is to prepare ourselves to enter into the place Jesus has gone to prepare for us. That place is heaven. It is also described as everlasting or eternal life (Matthew 25:46; Titus 1:2). This purpose for our lives is clearly stated in the words, "Fear God and keep His commandments; for this is man's all" (Eccl. 12:13).

Jesus spoke the parable of the ten virgins to emphasize the necessity of being prepared. In the parable ten virgins came for a wedding and were waiting for the bridegroom to make his appearance. Five of the virgins wisely brought extra oil for their lamps, but five others foolishly failed to do so. When the lamps of the foolish virgins begin to go out, they tried to borrow oil from the other five, but were told to go and buy their own. While they were gone the bridegroom came and the five foolish virgins, being unprepared, were not allowed to enter for the door was shut. Jesus went on to end this parable with the words, "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming" (Matthew 25:1-13). A simple, yet vastly important lesson to be learned from this parable is, that unless you make adequate preparation before cause heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people.

Do you really want to go to heaven? If your sincere answer to this question is YES, then you will gladly follow the Lord's directions for making the proper preparation. You will submit in obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ, believing that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24), turning from the practice of sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confessing your faith in Jesus (Romans 10:9-10) and being immersed in water into the death of Jesus for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4). Yet, that is only the beginning of preparing oneself for heaven. This preparation is a life-long expression of constant love for and continued faithfulness to the Lord.

If you really want to go to heaven you will do what is necessary to continued spiritual growth (Romans 10:17; 2 Peter 3:18). You will refuse to love the world or the things in the world and abstain from fleshly lusts (1 John 2:15-17; 1 Peter 2:11). You will walk in the light (1 John 1:7-9), let your light shine (Matthew 5:16) and follow the example Jesus has left us (1 Peter 2:21). When you sin, you will confess your sin, repent of it and seek God's forgiveness in prayer (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9). If you really want to go to heaven you will prepare yourself by being faithful to your spouse, a teacher and role model for your children and an active servant in the Lord's church (1 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 5:22-25; 6:1-2; Matt. 24:25-26).

Do you really want to go to heaven? If so, then your primary focus in life should be on making the proper preparation. If you have yet to prepare, please, do not put it off any longer. Remember, heaven is a prepared

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the coming of the bridegroom (our Lord) you any longer. Remember, heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people.



