



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

November 15, 2020

Number 46

## 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@  
greenplainchurchofchrist.org

## IS SOCIAL DRINKING A SIN?

*By Tim Dooley*

It's all right if I have a beer or two in the privacy of my own home, isn't it? It is not a sin to drink alcohol so long as I don't get drunk, right? Paul told Timothy to drink a little wine for his stomachs sake, so it must be okay to drink a little, right? How many times have we all heard statements and questions such as these? How many times have we ourselves asked these things? Well, the answer to all these questions is simple...No.

### A Stumbling Block

Romans 14:13, "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." If for no other reason but this one, social drinking is a sin. If you were to come into my home and see beer and wine in my refrigerator, what would you think? In verse 21 Paul then said, "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." If we know that we should be setting a good example and we don't, what is it? "Therefore to

him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

### "Drunk" and "Excess" of Ephesians 5:18

Ephesians 5:18 states, "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;" To be "drunk with wine" is derived from the Greek verbiage meaning "to intoxicate" or the process of becoming drunk. When a person takes a drink of alcohol he has become intoxicated. Certainly every one has a different tolerance level and the blood alcohol level will vary. Yet the fact remains that after one drink a person begins to become drunk.

Now as for the word "excess" please read 1 Peter 4:4 and apply the same logic many do to our text. 1 Peter 4:4 states, "Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:" It light of the logic used by some in Ephesians 5:18 it would certainly be okay to "riot" a little as long as we don't "riot" a lot! 2 Peter 2:13 states that

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members:** Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, Jim and Mary Lowrie.

**Family and Friends:** Helen Tidwell, Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, , Janice Canter, , Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Sandra Cook Downs, Kevin Smith, Walter Lee Steely, Carol Pigg and Dale Pentecost.

- **WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY:** We will continue meeting each Sunday morning at 10:00 am for worship and on Wednesday at 7:00 pm for Bible study. All other services are cancelled until further notice.
- **PANTRY ITEMS November 2020:** 1—Sweet Pickles 8—Green Beans; 115—Canned Meats; 22—Peas 29— Diced Tomatoes. 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.
- **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 Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- **November 2020 Anniversaries:** 1st—Ann & David Thompson; 13th—Jane & Brent Morris; 17th—Debbie & Mike Ernstberger. **Birthdays:** 15th—Jonnie Hutchison; 23rd—Vickie Canter. If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- **We offer FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES 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](mailto: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/>

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



## BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

**This Week:** Where is the Christian's citizenship?

**Last Week:** Where in the Bible is the “tree of life” mentioned?

**Answer:** Gen. 2:9;3:22, 24; Prov. 3:18; 11:30; 13:12; 15:4; Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14).

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those who “riot” will receive the reward of unrighteousness. Does it matter if it is just a little controlled, social rioting or an excess of such?

### 1 Timothy 5:23

Paul wrote to Timothy, “Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake and thine often infirmities.” Many have tried to use this verse in an attempt to justify alcohol as a beverage. It does no such thing; in fact it does quite the opposite. Timothy refrained from drinking wine and strong drink all together, even when sick. This was done no doubt, not only in order to set a good example, but as a matter of Christian purity.

We have made great advancements in recent generations in the medical field. If a doctor tells you today to “use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake” I would suggest a second opinion!

### Don’t Be A Fool

Strong words indeed, but Proverbs 20:1 states, “Wine IS A MOCKER, STRONG DRINK IS raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.” Proverbs 14:16 tells us, “A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.” Those who are wise will avoid wine and strong drink. To know what happens to the foolish we need only read what Jesus has to say in Matthew 25:1-13.

### Conclusion

Psalms 75:8, “For in the hand of the LORD there is A CUP, AND THE WINE IS RED; IT IS FULL OF MIXTURE; AND HE POURETH OUT OF THE SAME: BUT THE DREGS THEREOF, ALL THE WICKED OF THE EARTH SHALL WRING THEM OUT, AND DRINK THEM.” What shall be of those who partake of that which the Lord himself has discarded? - [churchofchristarticles.com](http://churchofchristarticles.com)

### ARE YOU THE EXCEPTION? By Jonnie Hutchison

“I know God wants me to be happy and He will make an exception in my case.” Though this sentiment is not often expressed verbally, it seems to be the idea that many have who choose to knowingly and willingly participate in sinful actions. How many who have entered into an unscriptural marriage relationship have the idea that they are the exception to the rule as stated by Jesus, “*And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.*” (Matthew 19:9). Is the excuse that “God wants me to be happy” a legitimate reason for entering into and maintaining an adulterous relationship? Will God really make an exception for adulterers because He wants them to be happy? No. Here is what

God says about adultery and other sins of the flesh? Galatians 5:19-21 answers, “*Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*”

God wants us to be happy but not at the expense of our eternal souls. The temporary pleasure produced by sin does not last and often generates much unhappiness and regret. But living a holy life by turning from

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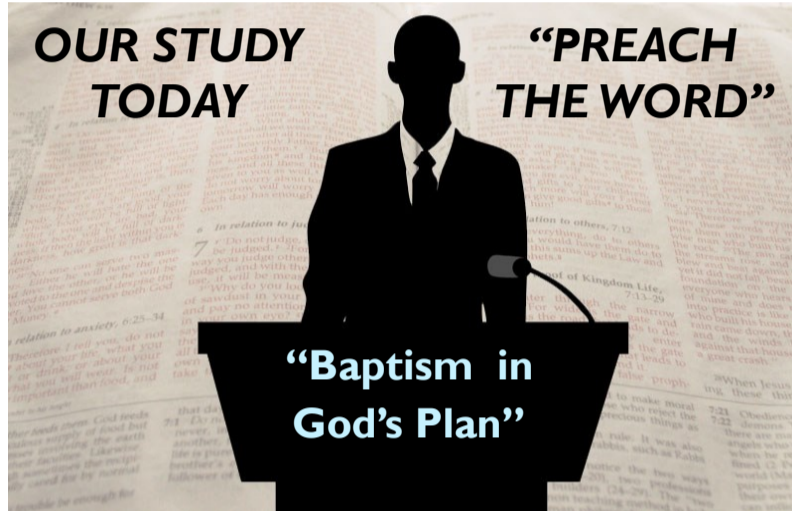
### COME VISIT WITH US

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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the practice of sin brings a happiness that is able to last for eternity. Sin results in spiritual enslavement (John 8:34), separation from God (Isaiah 59:1-2), guilt (Ezekiel 18:24), and spiritual death (Romans 6:23).

God does not overlook or excuse any sin. He makes no exceptions for He is not a receptor of persons (Acts 10:34). If you decide to commit sin you will be held accountable before the Living God who exercises righteous and just judgment. After setting forth the sinful characteristics of those who rejected God, the inspired apostle wrote, in Romans 1:32, *“who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.”* Sin, all sin and every sin deserves death regardless of who commits it. God commands **ALL MEN** everywhere to **REPENT!** (Acts 17:30). No exceptions are made, no excuses are accepted (Luke 13:3).

Do not be deceived into believing that you are the exception when it comes to the consequences of sin. Rather, heed this warning: *“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life”* (Galatians 6:7-8).

God’s love for you will not allow Him to make exceptions for your sins. He sent His only begotten Son into the world to provide salvation **FROM** your sins, not **IN** your sins. Humble yourself before Him. Turn from your sins in genuine repentance and live your life in preparation for eternity.

*Hear & Believe Rom. 10:17; John 8:24.*

*Repent of sin—Acts 17:30-31.*

*Confess faith—Rom. 10:9-10.*

*Be baptized—Mark 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21.*

*Be faithful—1 Corinthians 4:2.*