



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

February 21, 2021

Number 7

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

Courageous Christians Say “NO!”

By Curtis Cates

In this day of compromise, degeneracy, immorality, license, rebellion, and situation ethics, the respect for the absolute biblical standard of ethics and moral conduct is coming under increasing, relentless attack. If the child of God is to go to heaven, he must live a life of conformity to the challenging, lofty Word of God (through God’s help, providence, and grace) and of nonconformity to the world (Rom. 6:1-5; 12:1-2). It is the faithful unto death who will be crowned (Rev. 2:10). Faithfulness demands the ability to say “NO!” The number of homes destroyed, of prison inmates, of lives ruined, of congregations weakened is steadily increasing. Those who would go to heaven must develop strong uncompromising character.

SOME BIBLICAL CHARACTERS NOT HAVING THIS COURAGE. For our example, the Holy Spirit recorded numerous biblical characters who were not strong enough to say “NO!” Adam and Eve were too weak to say “NO” to the forbidden fruit; they said “yes” to Satan’s temptation (Gen. 2:16-17;

3:1-14), bringing suffering and death unto the world (1 Cor. 15:22). Note the warning in 2 Corinthians 11:1-3. The Israelites refused to say “no” to lusts in the wilderness; thus, they perished before reaching the promised land (1 Cor. 10:1-12). Think of the ruin and suffering which came to and stalked David when he did not say “no” to fleshly lust and temptation (2 Sam. 11:2ff), as well as the wise man, Solomon, who became a ruined fool (1 Kin. 11:1-11), losing his very kingdom.

OTHERS POSSESSED GREAT COURAGE. For our encouragement, the Holy Spirit revealed a number of godly men and women who had the courage to say “No.” Refusing to be conformed to the world, Vashti said “No” to immodesty in dress (though it cost her the queenship) (Est. 1:1-22), Joseph said “No” to the advances of Potiphar’s wife (though it cost him his freedom) (Gen. 39:7-23), Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (Dan. 1:7) said “No” to bowing down before

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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, Mary and Jim Lowrie, Mary and Jesse Vincent and Steve Enoch.

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, Dale Pentecost Jaime Aguavo, Jr., Steve Ernestberger and Brett Wyatt.

- **PANTRY ITEMS February 2021:** 7—SpaghettiOs; 14—Jello; 21—Apple Sauce; 28—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.
- **February 2021 Anniversaries:** None. **Birthdays:** 8-Krysta Smith; 19-Maxine Pool; 25-Jan Pigg. 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.

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: What type of insect did John the immerser eat in the wilderness?

Last Week: On what day of the week was Jesus raised from the dead?

Answer: On the first day of the week (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:2-6; Luke 24:1-4; John 20:1-10).

Led by the spirit *By Roy J. Hearn*

Romans 8:14 says: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Everyone interested in salvation should understand how this is accomplished. Often it is shrouded in darkness, due to false teaching, and people fail to investigate God's Word, and are thereby deceived.

The church of Christ is often misrepresented. Opposers say God must do the converting and say we deny it. Also, that one must be converted by the Spirit and power of God and imply we deny it. Some say that the heart is changed by faith and that faith is a gift from God and say we deny that. But we believe all these things to be true. There is no difference on what God does, but how He does it. "To the law and to the testimony" (Isa. 8:20) and let that decide.

1. Faith is produced by the Word of God. Jesus prayed for a certain class of people, that is, those who believe on Him through the words of the apostles, His personal representatives on earth (John 14:26; 16:13-15; 2 Cor. 5:18-20). John 20:30-31 shows that saving faith comes through the written Word of God. Peter said that the Gentiles believed by hearing the Word from his mouth (Acts 15:8).

The Apostle Paul testifies that faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). But that one must hear before faith can be produced (Rom. 10:14). There is no belief without first hearing the Word. All these witnesses agree. The only difference is that now the Word that produces faith is written in the New Testament. Paul told Timothy to preach the things he had heard from him with many witnesses (2 Tim. 2:2). Further, he said that we should stand fast in the Word he had taught whether by word or letter (2 The. 2:15), and that any who would teach a different doctrine would be accursed (Gal. 1:6-9).

2. How the Holy Spirit gives faith. As shown above, in reference to John 16:13-15, the Spirit was sent to the apostles to guide them into all truth. 1 Peter 1:12 says they preached the Gospel with the Holy Spirit sent down from heaven. Acts 2:1-4 reveals the coming of the Holy Spirit, and that the apostles began to speak with other languages as the Spirit gave them utterance. In Revelation 2:1, Christ said, "Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write." Verse 7 says, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." So, the Spirit speaks through the written Word.

Where is all this found? In the New Testament. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says that the Scripture furnishes all one needs for perfection. 2 Peter 1:3 states that everything that pertains to life and godliness comes through knowledge, and for that reason one should study (2 Tim. 2:15).

3. How people are converted by the power of God. Romans 1:16 says the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes it, and that faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). This Word was given by the Holy Spirit to the apostles (1 Cor. 2:13). Paul said the Gospel came to him by revelation (Gal. 1:11-12). Peter affirmed that the Gentiles were purified by faith, which was produced by his preaching (Acts 15:7-9). Also, one purifies his soul in obedience to the Truth (1 Pet. 1:22).

Without doubt, therefore, the Scripture teaches that faith is a gift of God, but that it comes from the study of God's Word, and not by some mysterious, direct means.

4. This is demonstrated by divine example. Acts 2 reveals that the Holy Spirit spoke through the apostles to the multitudes (Acts 2:1-4, 22). When they heard the Word preached they were pricked in their hearts—made believers. The Word of God is the



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!

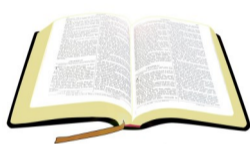
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the golden image (though the punishment was the burning fiery furnace) (Dan. 3:1-27), Daniel said “No” to the prohibition to pray to God (though the penalty was to be thrown into the lion’s den) (Dan. 6:4-24), the apostles said “No” to the command not to preach the word (though it meant a beating by the Sanhedrin and possible death) (Acts

5:27-29; 40-42), and Paul said “No” to the demands not to preach the whole counsel of God (though it meant being counted an enemy and being persecuted, even by brethren) (Acts 20:23-27; Gal. 4:16).

“**Rise up, O men of God!**” Equip and fortify yourselves in moral and doctrinal purity (1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Cor. 13:5).



Lesson Today “OUR EVIL WORLD”

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sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17). It was wielded by the mouths of the apostles (Acts 2:1-4, 22-27, 8:4-5, 12) When the people on that Pentecost day heard the Word preached by the apostles, they were pricked in their hearts, convicted of sin.

5. The Pentecostians led by the Spirit. Their change, or purification, was begun, and the effect produced by the power of the Holy Spirit. They were led by the words spoken by the apostles. But where? They were led to cry out, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter answered and said, “Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:37-38) With this example it is clear to see that to be led by the Spirit, to receive faith, and be saved by the power of God is produced by the written Word now. Please observe that the whole process of conversion was begun in preaching the Gospel, hearing the Gospel which produced faith and repent-

ance, and salvation was consummated in baptism.

6. Is something besides the Word needed? How do you know Christ is the Son of God? “The Bible says so.” Don’t you need some other proof? “No, for the Bible says so.” How do you know there is a heaven to be gained and hell to be avoided? “The Bible says so.” Do you not need other testimony? “No, the Bible is enough.”

If one were to hear Christ say, “Thy sins are forgiven thee,” how would you know you were pardoned? “Christ said so.” Would you not need other proof? “No, for Christ said so.” The same Christ said that in order to be saved one must (1) Believe in Him as God’s Son (John 8:24). (2) Repent of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19). (3) Confess Him before men (Mat. 10:32; Acts 8:37). (4) Be baptized to be saved (Acts 2:38; 10:48; Rom. 6:3-6). Christ promises to save when one obeys His Word. Why fight It?