



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

March 14, 2021

Number 10

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](mailto:greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org)

“THOSE FOLKS ARE DIFFERENT”

By Kevin Cauley

This past week I was having a conversation with a friend who is a member of a [denominational](#) church. She mentioned to me that she wanted to come visit us and that she had told her “pastor” that she was going to visit us. Her “pastor” asked who we were and my friend responded, “the [church of Christ](#).” The “pastor” said, “Are you sure you want to do that? Those folks are different!”

There are many members of the church today who would react negatively to that analysis. They would say, “Oh, we’re no different than any of the denominations around us.” To these, it is an embarrassment that they are considered to be different by the denominations. These would want to change the church into just another denomination, to legitimize and acquire [instrumental music](#), to destroy the autonomy of the local congregation, to call the preacher, “pastor”, to get rid of the name “church of Christ,” etc. until the church is no longer distinctive from those around us. However, that would not be the way of God or Christ.

We read in the scriptures that God has always demanded of his people that they be different. In Deuteronomy 14:2, Moses tells the children of Israel that they are different. He says, “For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.” The word “holy” means to be set apart, different. God wanted the children of Israel to be a “peculiar people.” The new English Standard Version translates this phrase “treasured possession.” Certainly something that is a treasured possession is different from everything else one has and is set apart.

In the New Testament as well, Peter quotes from this passage in Deuteronomy and applies it toward “Spiritual Israel” – Christians. Peter writes, “But ye are a [chosen generation](#), a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous

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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.

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., and Brett Wyatt.

- **PANTRY ITEMS March 2021:** 7—Canned Peaches; 14—Canned Pairs; 21—Canned Potatoes; 28—Canned Chili. 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.
- **March 2021 Anniversaries:** 12—Marie & Roy Wyatt; 15—Sue & Bobby Hall. **Birthdays:** 9—Gail Hutchison; 14—Roy Wyatt; 20—James Pigg; 23—London Smith. 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

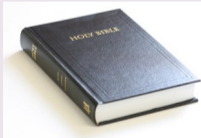
Gospel Broadcasting Network
<https://gbntv.org/>

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/>



TODAY'S SERMON

“The Importance of the church” #2

“to Him be glory in the church by
Christ Jesus to all generations,
forever and ever. Amen.
(Ephesians 3:21)

(Continued from page 1)

light” (1 Peter 2:9). God wants us, as Christians, to be different. Paul writes to Titus these words regarding Jesus, “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14). Jesus died so that we could be different. We read in 2 Corinthians 6:17-18: “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” In order to be God’s children, the church must be separate, distinct, unique, different.

So, are we different? Yes, we are, and I am glad that we are. Today we live in a time when denominations around us are conforming to the world. We hear of denominations who condone abortion, homosexuality, fornication, and adultery. The church of Christ does not condone such activities because God’s word condemns these things. Instead of

conforming to the way that the world would have the church, the church ought to be demanding of individuals that their lives be transformed through repentance and renewal of mind. Romans 12:2 tells us, “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Are we different? Yes, we are. We are different because we have been transformed by Christ to be a people who are holy, the children of God, separate from that which is sinful; different from the way the world would mold religion in its own image today. It is our differences from everyone else that define who we are as Christians. We should never be embarrassed of that! The world and the denominations may think us “strange” (1 Peter 4:4) but I wouldn’t have it any other way. One day, Jesus will return and all will bow and God will be glorified, not because of our similarities with the world, but because of our differences (Matthew 25:34).

—“Those Folks Are Different!” - GEWatkins.net

DOES ONE ALCOHOLIC DRINK CONSTITUTE SIN?

Wesley Simons

I was at the church building studying when the phone rang. I answered the phone and a man asked, “Are you the preacher who answered the question on social drinking on the TV program, *Know Your Bible?*” I told him that I did not answer that question. He was upset that the preacher had taught that social drinking was a sin.

I assured him that if I had answered the question then I would have pointed out that social drinking is a sin. He wanted to know if I thought one drink would damn one’s soul. I told him: “Yes!” I also pointed out that he believed the same thing. He stated that he did not believe that one drink would damn one’s

soul. I said, “Sir, it amazes me that you do not know what you believe.” This somewhat shocked the man. He dogmatically denied believing that one drink would damn one’s soul.

I decided to prove to him that he believed one drink would damn a soul. I said, “Sir, if you believe in social drinking, then you must know your toleration point.” He stated that he did. I asked him what it was. He said four drinks (I have forgotten the exact number, so we will use one to make the point). I asked him, “What happens if you take drink number five?” He said it would be sin and he would be damned. I said, “See, I told you that you

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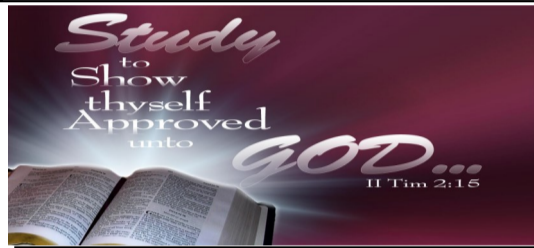


COME VISIT WITH US

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!

TRUTH.FM
Internet Radio
 Download App or
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<https://www.truth.fm/>



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
7:00 PM
A STUDY OF SECOND TIMOTHY

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believed that one drink would damn your soul." You believe that it is drink number five and I believe that it is drink number one. Therefore, we both believe that one drink will indeed condemn a man. We need to find out which drink it is that damns one!

I told him what I needed from him was Bible authority for taking the first four drinks. He tried to use Jesus turning water into "intoxicating" wine in John chapter two. I asked him if he was teaching his children to drink. He said, "No!" I asked him why? He said that he did not want them to do that. I asked him if he was trying to bring his children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. He answered, "Yes." I replied, "If you are trying to bring your children up in the teachings of our Lord, then why not teach them to drink alcoholic beverages since (according to you) Jesus turned water into intoxicating wine." If Jesus authorizes social drinking, then this is what we ought to teach our children, but he knew this was wrong and would not want his children involved in it.

I asked him if he would offer those who come to visit him a drink of whiskey? He said, "No." I again chided him for not teaching his fellowman what he claims the **Lord authorized. He seemed to be ashamed of what he believed that Jesus taught.** He did

not want his children drinking. He did not want his neighbors drinking, but he said, Jesus said it would be OK. Is his wisdom greater than our Lord's? What nonsense!

There is not a man living who knows his toleration point because it varies (depending on what one has eaten, body size, etc. A rehabilitation doctor told me that there was not a man living who knew his toleration point). Not only that, but a man would have to commit sin trying to find his toleration point. He would try one day and get drunk and say that amount is too much and over and over he would have to repeat the process. When a man takes one drink, he is one drink drunk. If not, why not? The Bible is right:

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Pro. 20:1). God is trying to appeal to our minds (Mark 16:15; John 6:44-45; 8:32). Therefore, we have a God-given obligation to be sober-minded.

—*Pillars of Truth*, Dunlap church of Christ, Dunlap, TN



The Gospel
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