



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

June 13, 2021

Number 22

Schedule of Services

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:50 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 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, 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

“YOUR TRADITIONS” *By Jonnie Hutchison*

There are hundreds of different kinds of religious denominations that have arisen since the first century when Jesus established His church as promised in Matthew 16:18-19 and fulfilled as recorded in Acts 2. These different kinds of religious denominations wear different names, teach and practice different and often inflicting doctrines and hold to many human religious traditions.

Jesus said, *“Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted”* (Matthew 15:13). This was said in the context of where the teaching of Jesus regarding the sinfulness of the human religious traditions of the Jews had offended the Pharisees. The Pharisees accused Jesus and His disciples of violating the **“tradition of the elders”** by not washing their hands before they ate. This was a human tradition, not something commanded by God. Jesus then asked, *“Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?”* (Matthew 15:1). Jesus illustrated this in the words, *“For God commanded, saying, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to*

death.’ But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or mother, ‘Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to God’ — then he need not honor his father or mother.’ Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.” (Matthew 15:4-6). How desperately people need to know this today! Human religious traditions set aside the Word of God and makes it ineffective for every religious tradition originated by man is an addition to God’s Word and violates such passages as Revelation 22:18-19 and Galatians 1:6-9. No wonder Jesus called these Pharisees “hypocrites” and said, *“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men”* (Matthew 15:8-9).

Dear reader are you following the commands of God or the teachings and commandments of men? If you are a member of a religious denomination, you are following human tradition. Why? Because no denomination can ex-

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, and 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., Brett Wyatt, Lucetria Hutchison and Kerry Thompson. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list..

- **RETURN TO NORMAL:** All our regularly scheduled periods of Bible Study and Worship have now been restored. The tape on the pews has been removed allowing unrestricted seating. Wearing a mask is now optional and is no longer required. Each one should use their own judgment in this matter. I know that all of us appreciate our elders and their keeping us protected during this pandemic. Let's continue to pray for them and the Lord's work here at Green Plain.
- **PANTRY ITEMS June 2021:** 6—Canned Meats; 13—Pork-n-Beans; 20—Canned Carrots; 27—Soups. 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.
- **June 2021 Anniversaries:** 1-Peggy & Perry Jarvis; 17-Jan & James Pigg; 25-Mary & Jim Lowrie. **Birthdays:** 10-Griselda Adams; If we have left anyone out please let us know.



- **Study the Bible in Your Own Home.** Enroll in a Completely **Free Bible Correspondence Course.** Send your name, complete mailing address and phone number to: Green Plain church of Christ—3980 Murray Paris Road—Hazel, KY 42049 or enroll online at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org> or email greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org.

ONLINE SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

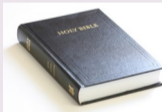
Gospel Broadcasting Network
<https://gbntv.org/>

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 SERMONS

AM: "What Jesus Taught About Marriage & Divorce"

PM: "The Christian Graces
2 Peter 1:3-11"

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ist without departing from the Word of God and embracing the doctrines and commandments of men. Jesus never established even one denominational church. It was never God's plan that Jesus be **ONE HEAD** over **MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF BODIES**. He built His one church and He is the one Head of His one church which is **HIS BODY** (Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:5). His church is **pre-denominational** in that it was established long before Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, or Evangelicalism, all of which have been built upon human religious traditions.

We plead with each reader in the words of Colossians 2:8-9, "*Beware lest any-*

*one cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to **the tradition of men**, according to the basic principles of the world, and **not according to Christ**.*" Faithful churches of Christ plead for all to depart from human religious traditions and return to the purity and simplicity of original New Testament Christianity.— to speak where the Bible speaks and to remain silent where the Bible is silent.

Please, give this some serious thought and study. Our salvation depends upon doing God's will, not our own (Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:8-9). Our love for you will not allow us to be silent on such a serious eternal issue. May God bless you with the desire to please Him.

THE DISTINCTIVE NATURE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

By Brett W. Hoogland

We tend to recognize things that have distinctive features or are distinct in their nature. Most religious people are aware of how remarkably different Jesus was when compared to the religious people of his day. His life, teaching and ministry were distinct from the current religious trends. "The people were astonished at his teaching," (Matthew 7:28-29) and recognized that it was clearly different than that of the contemporary religious teachers. His life was distinct from most religious teachers in that he did not obtain a degree from the famed seminaries of his day, but rather made his advent from the humble obscurity of the despised city of Nazareth, which caused many to stumble (John 1:45-46; 6:42). Yet, for the most part, "the common people heard him gladly" (Mark 12:37). The mission of Christ was distinct in that he came primarily for a spiritual purpose (Luke 12:13-14; Mark 1:38) "to seek and to save" those who were lost (Luke 19:9-10) regardless of their past, while his contemporaries were more concerned about the "social"

aspects of their religion (Matthew 23:5-7).

The Distinctive Church "Of Christ"

Recognizing that the life "of Christ", the doctrine "of Christ", and mission "of Christ" were distinct from all other religious leaders of his day, we should not be surprised to find that the church "of Christ" would also be distinct from other churches that are not truly "of Christ." Even the casual observer will notice that the church "of Christ" in the first century had a very distinct worship based on sincerity and truth (John 4:24; Ephesians 5:19; 1 Corinthians 14:15), a distinct message of salvation in Jesus Christ (1 John 5:11; Acts 4:12) and a distinct mission to be the "pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15) which "is the power of God unto salvation" (Romans 1:16).

Hide It Under A Bushel?

It seems today, that in an effort toward greater tolerance and unity in diversity, many

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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
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<https://www.truth.fm/>

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are trying to do away with the distinctive features of Christ's church in order to create a sort of ecumenical, generic church. Many "churches of Christ" (Romans 16:16) are forfeiting their divinely designed distinctive features in order to blend in with denominationalism. The distinct worship, doctrine and mission of the church "of Christ" are being compromised in order to become the Mega-Churches of denominationalism.

Compromise or Magnify?

Jesus never compromised his distinctive features in order to be less offensive to the religious people of His day (Matthew 15:12-14) or to gain more followers ... should we? As a matter of fact, Jesus recognized that

his distinct doctrine caused him to lose great numbers of people (John 6:53-66), yet he realized that His Father would "draw" whom-ever he willed through the very same distinctive features that repelled others (John 6:44-45; Matthew 11:25-26). May we never be ashamed of the distinctive nature of our Lord Jesus (Mark 8:38), nor of His body the church (Ephesians 1:22-23). If we ever hope to truly be the Lord's "own special (peculiar / distinctive) people" (Titus 2:14), we will have to maintain the distinctive features that he has given us that set us apart from all other religious efforts that are not "of Christ" (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

—Olsen Park church of Christ [The Distinctive Nature of the Church "of Christ" \(olsenpark.com\)](http://www.olsenpark.com)

THOSE TO SERVE JUNE 2021

Announcements: Chad Canter

Lord's Supper AM: James Pigg & Chad Canter

Lord's Supper PM 6-James Pigg; 13-Chad Canter; 20-James Pigg; 27-Chad Canter

Opening Prayer AM: 6-Jim Lowrie; 13-Mike Ernestberger; 20-Jonnie Hutchison 27-Bobby Hall.

Closing Prayer PM: 6-Jesse Vincent; 13-Junior Morris; 20-David Thompson; 27-Perry Jarvis

Song Leaders: AM-Charles Enoch; PM- Chad Canter; **Wednesday**-Mike Ernstberger

Usher: Jesse Vincent;

Count Contribution: James Pigg & Chad Canter