

THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

June 14, 2020

Number 24

Schedule of Services

• We have the privilege this Sunday at 10:00 of assembling together in the auditorium to worship God!

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

SINS ARE <u>NOT</u> WASHED AWAY BY "FAITH ONLY" By Jonnie Hutchison

Many in our world have is come to accept a very common teaching that a person is saved (is washed from sin) at the point of accepting that Jesus Christ is the Son of God or by "faith only." Prominent denominational creeds phrases contain such as, "Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort." (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 1972, pg. 55). Denominational preachers will often tell those seeking salvation to "accept Jesus as your personal Savior" or, "believe in Jesus and let Him come into your heart and He will save you." Such answers fall short of what God requires for the washing away of sin.

To have one's sins washed away requires contact with the blood of Jesus. The Bible is clear that Jesus shed His blood to provide the means for those lost in sin to have their sins washed away. When Jesus partook of the Passover Feast with His disciples, and after giving them is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 26:27-28). When John was in exile on the isle of Patmos he wrote, "...Unto Him that loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood" (Rev. 1:5b).

Contact with the blood of Jesus does not come at the point of "faith only." In all the cases of conversion recorded in the New Testament after the establishment of the church of Christ, not a single person was ever saved by his or her faith alone. Yes, all were saved by faith, but by a living active obedient faith not a inactive dead faith. You see, faith without works of obedience constitute a "dead faith". As the book of James informs us, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only" (James 2:24). The "works" in this passage are not meritorious works, that is, works originated by men in an effort to salvation, earn but simply obedience to God as illustrated in the context by the examples of Rahab and Abraham. God has set

Email: greenplain@ greenplainchurchofchrist.org	the cup He said, "for this is my blood in the new covenant, which	forth in His Word the response
greenplainchurcholchrist.org	oroou in the new covenant, which	(Continued on page 3)

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: <u>Green Plain members</u>: Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Margrette Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Jesse & Mary Vincent, Carolyn Byars and Dave & Ann Thompson. <u>Family and Friends</u>: Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Jim Hutson, Janice Canter, Maryanne Pedigrew, Dale Foster, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Pat Hocking, Sandra Cook Downs and Sam White. Please continue to pray for each of these and for those tending to their needs as well as the leaders of our nation in this time of crisis.

- Until further notice we will continue to meet for worship at 10:00 am each Sunday morning. At this time we will not meet for evening worship or Wednesday Bible classes.
- **<u>GUEST SPEAKER</u>**: David Nance will be with us June 21st with a report of the ongoing work in the nation of India. Please continue to pray for this good work.
- **PANTRY ITEMS June 2020:** 7—**Baked Beans; 14**—**Peanut Butter; 21**—**Corn ; 28 Canned Meats.** 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.
- <u>Mission Work</u>: Please continue to pray for the preachers this congregation is supporting in India and for Dale Foster, Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- June 2020 <u>Anniversaries</u>: <u>16th</u>—Teresa & Larry Enoch; <u>17th</u>—James & Jan Pigg; <u>21st</u>—Peggy & Perry Jarvis; <u>25th</u>—Mary & Jim Lowrie; <u>Birthdays</u>: <u>10th</u>—Griselda Adams; <u>12th</u>—LaDawn Hale. Let us know if we have left anyone out.
- Prayer is vital to the spiritual life of every Christian. The Bible tells us to "pray without ceasing" and assures us that God both hears and answers our prayers according to His will (1 Thess. 5:17; 1 John 5:14-15). Through prayer we communicate with our Creator with the confidence that He will help us through this life (Heb. 4:16).

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/ Dexter church of Christ www.facebook.com/Dexterkycoc/ Coldwater church of Christ www.facebook.com/Coldwater-Church-of-Christ-



<u>This Week</u>: Who said, "The Word that God puts in my mouth, that I must speak"?

Last Week: Why did Adam name his wife Eve?

Answer: Because she was the

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mother of all living (Genesis 3:20).

(Continued from page 1)

He requires of sinners in order to reach the blood of Jesus. No one has the ability to go back 2,000 years ago and contact the literal shed blood of Jesus. Yet, God has revealed to us what is necessary to "spiritually" reach His cleansing blood. Personal belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God is certainly a requirement for salvation (John 8:24). Repentance of sin is also necessary (Acts 17:30) as is the confession of one's faith in Christ (romans 10:9-10). Yet, there is not one passage in the New Testament where one is said to reach the blood of Jesus at the point of faith only, at the point of repentance or when one confesses faith in Christ.

Water baptism is the point of contact with the blood of Jesus! In every single case of conversion recorded in the book of Acts salvation from sin occurred only after penitent confessing believers were immersed in water for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:37-41; 8:26-40; 10:43-48). The Bible reveals the connection between immersion in water and the death of Jesus Christ. Romans 6:3-4 reads, "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." When did Jesus shed His blood? Obviously when He died on the cross (John 19:34). To reach the death of Jesus is to reach His shed blood. Thus, when a penitent confessing believer is "baptized into" the death of Jesus his/her sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus and that person then arises from the waters of baptism to walk in "newness of life." Note that the walking in newness of life comes after, not before, baptism. If reaching the blood of Jesus came at the point of "faith only" this would not be the case.

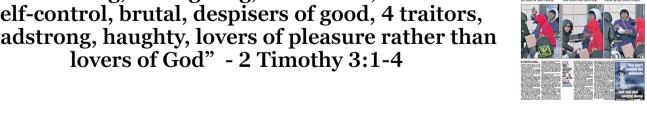
I would encourage each reader to give this diligent consideration. If you believed you were saved at the point of "faith only" you have believed a lie. Jesus did NOT say, "He who believes is saved and then baptized later." What Jesus said is, "He who believes <u>and</u> is baptized shall be saved...." (Mark 16:16). A careful study of the passages in this article helps to understand why God's preacher Ananias told Saul the persecutor, "And now, why are you waiting, Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). Dear reader, why are you waiting? SINSARE NOT WASHED AWAY BY FAITH ONLY!

SHOULD WE BE SURPRISED?

"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than



The Daily Telegraph Carry on looting



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