



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

August 22, 2021

Number 32

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](mailto:greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org)

ARE YOU DESPARATE AND HOPELESS?

By Jonnie Hutchison

Fox News interviewed an American citizen in Afghanistan who was trapped after the withdrawal of American forces from that country. This man expressed his dilemma in having no way out of the country. The embassy was closed. Taliban checkpoints prevented free travel and the airport in Kabel was surrounded. He expressed fear that he and his family would eventually be killed if they were not rescued by American forces. His situation sounded both desperate and hopeless. Our hearts go out to him and the thousands of others in that country who are in the same basic situation. Let us pray that they will be rescued from the false religion of Islam and the brutality that often accompanies it.

Tragically there are countless people throughout the world who are in an equally desperate and hapless situation. However, most are not trying to flee their captivity for most do not even know how desperate their situation is. They have been deceived by the master of deception into believing that they are free, when in actuality, they are chained with the heavy burden of sin.

Jesus said, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin”* (John 8:34). The inspired apostle Paul wrote, in Romans 6:16, *“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”* Enslavement to sin leads to spiritual death or eternal separation from God in the eternal punishment of hell (Matthew 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:8-10). Yet, there is an opportunity to be rescued from the desperation of sin. The rescuer is Jesus Christ who shed His precious blood, paying the price to buy us out of the slavery of sin. Our part is arriving at the place of salvation. The place of salvation is where Jesus shed His blood and that was in His death (John 19:34). We reach His death and thus His blood when we, as penitent believers, confess faith in Him as the Son of God and are immersed in water for the remission of sins (Romans 6:3-5; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Mark 16:16).

Yes, God has a plan to res-

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Green Plain members:* Faye Travis (Covid—Murray Hospital), Peggy Jarvis, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, Mary and Jim Lowrie and Mary and Jesse Vincent.

Family and Friends: Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt and Charlotte Parker. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list.

- **COVID INFO:** Our Covid safety measures remain in effect for our worship services and Bible classes. It is recommended that we wear our masks, social distance and refrain from hand shakes and hugs.. Let us consider one another's safety and act accordingly.
- **PANTRY ITEMS August 2021:** 1—Toothpaste; 8—Body Wash; 15—Kleenex; 22—Paper Towels; 29—Deodorant 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.
- **August 2021 Anniversaries:** 13—Gail & Jonnie Hutchison . **Birthdays:** 4-Teresa Enoch; 10-Brent Morris. Please let us know if we have left anyone out.
- **ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.** *Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to the address on the first page of this bulletin.*
- **CHANGE IN UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS** Our fall gospel meeting and the Green Plain School of Biblical Studies has been cancelled this fall due to the increasing threat of the Covid-19 virus. Please take advantage of the many online Bible studies that are available. The West Kentucky Lectures that took place at the Sunny Slope church of Christ last month are available for viewing on YouTube. A search for "West Kentucky Lectures" should lead you to the proper place. We have watched several of these and they are excellent.



**GOSPEL
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NETWORK**

The Gospel 24/7

Online at gbntv.org

LESSONS AUGUST 22nd

**AM Bible Study—
*The Book of Acts***

**AM— *"Is It Worth the
Loss of Your Soul?"***

PM— *To Be Announced*

Wednesday Bible Class

The Book of Titus

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cue us from the slavery of sin and give us the hope of eternal life in heaven. Do you find yourself in the slavery of sin, a desperate and hopeless situation? Then come in obedience to your Lord and Savior and let Him free you from your spiritual slavery and give you the

hope of eternal life in heaven. ***“But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness”*** (Romans 6:17-18).

TURNING AGAINST REASON

By Todd Houston

“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God. John 3:19-21

In almost every facet of life, people follow the law of rationality which demands we gather all available evidence about any given subject, reason about that evidence, and draw only such conclusions as are demanded by the evidence. We naturally do so as we are created in the image of a rational God, and we received this trait as part of our general makeup. It is imperative that we apply this God-given trait in our daily affairs because it is the only way we may perceive the many cause-and-effect relationships within the events of our lives. Such recognition keeps us from harming ourselves in various ways, be they physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual.

Sadly, when it comes to the evidence surrounding Christ and His divine nature, people are often blinded by the light He came to shed on our world (John 1:4-10). As the atheistic philosopher David Hume once wrote, “When reason is against a man, he will soon turn against reason.” The point he was making is that no one shirks the law of rationality unless the truth in view threatens his/her preconceptions or predisposition to act in certain ways. Sadly, Mr. Hume did just this with

the evidence for the Christ. This was also the case with Jesus’ enemies in His day. Several examples of this are easily identified in Scripture. We will consider a sampling of these passages to avoid making the same mistakes and being blinded by the light of Christ.

In Matthew 12:22-32 Jesus cast a demon out of a man thereby healing the man of blindness and muteness. Any rational person would see this awesome display as the work of God. No human possesses such power, and no one can reasonably deny that what Jesus did was truly a gracious, benevolent, and upright action. A great many in the crowd made the proper assessment of the evidence and identified Jesus as the Son of David (Messiah) who was to come (vs. 23). They reasoned properly about the evidence. The Pharisees, on the other hand, were affected in the opposite way and accused Jesus of being possessed by Satan and casting out the demon by his power. They turned against reason.

Another example of such blindness is in Mark 3:1-6 when the Pharisees sought to accuse Jesus of Sabbath breaking for healing a man with a withered hand. Knowing their thoughts, He called the man to Himself and asked them if it was lawful to do good and save life on the Sabbath, or if it were better to be indifferent and cause harm (vs. 4). They refused to answer the question because the reasonable answer would have indicted them for their hardness. Such callousness angered

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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 Lord, so He immediately healed the man in their presence. Rather than praise God for this display of His power and kindness, they plotted with the Herodians to destroy Jesus.

After He raised Lazarus in John 11, they plotted how to kill Him to stop the growth of His following (John 11:45-53). In John 12:9-11, the chief priests set their sights on Lazarus to destroy him for being raised by Jesus because he was walking, talking proof of Jesus' deity. For this, many of the Jews were leaving the Jewish elites and believing in Jesus (vs. 11). This is where the truth of their motives is revealed. John 3:19-21 tells us that people reject His light (turn against reason) because their deeds are evil, they prefer darkness to light, and they do not wish to have their evil exposed. This is precisely why the scribes, Pharisees, and chief priests hated Jesus. He threatened their power and prestige. He unmasked their hypocrisy (cf. Matthew 23). Pomp, pride, position, and power were their primary concerns (John

11:47-48). So, they turned against reason because it was against their selfish desires. Your selfish desires and mine are likely different, but we still face the same question they did. Will we accept the evidence or turn against reason?

—Turning Against Reason — Elizabethton Church of Christ (elizabethtoncoc.org)



THOSE TO SERVE AUGUST 2021

Announcements: James Pigg **Lord's Supper AM:** Mike and Chad

Lord's Supper PM 1-Chad 8-Mike; 15-Chad; 22-Mike; 29-Chad

Opening Prayer AM: 1-James; 8-Larry-; 15-Jim; 22-Bobby; 29-Jonnie

Closing Prayer AM: 1-Jesse; 8-Junior; 15-Roy; 22-David; 29-Perry

Song Leaders: AM-Perry; PM- Chad; Wednesday-Mike

Usher: Larry; Count Contribution: Mike and Chad