



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 34

March 20, 2016

Number 12

## Schedule of Services

- **Sunday**  
Bible Classes  
10:00 am  
Morning Worship  
10:45 am  
Evening Worship  
6:00 pm
- **Wednesday**  
Bible Classes 7:00 pm

## Elders

- Mike Ernstberger  
270-753-2108
- James Pigg  
270-759-2145
- Chad Canter  
270-873-7509

## Deacons

- Larry Enoch
- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

## Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison  
Cell: 270-978-7569  
Home: 270-492-8091

## Mission Work

Dean Crutchfield—India  
Adam Evans—Tanzania

## 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)

## BORING WORSHIP *Jonnie Hutchison*

Several years ago I heard some members of the church complaining that the worship services they were attending were boring. They declared that they were not getting anything out of the worship and that it needed to be made more exciting. They concluded that just because worship was boring to them then it must be so with all the rest of the members too. My answer to them was, "Do you have it within your ability to read the minds of your fellow worshipers? How do you know that they do not find the simple worship prescribed by God as exciting and beneficial to them?"

God has authorized what He desires in worship. No man or woman has the authority to change the avenues of worship which God has specified. If we add to it or take from it or substituted something other than God has commanded we err and place our souls in jeopardy just like Nadab and Abihu did (Leviticus 10:1-2). These two priests, the sons of Aaron, offered to God "strange fire which He had not commanded" and were destroyed by fire sent from the Lord for their error. Perhaps they thought that offering a different kind of fire would make their worship more exciting. But they were dead wrong!

Genuine worship must be offered to God in "spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). This means with the right attitude of mind and in the exact way that God has revealed in His word. Yes, our emotions are certainly involved in acceptable worship. However, our emotions must always be governed by truth. To introduce into our worship that which excites the emotions but is unauthorized by di-

vine truth makes worship vain and unacceptable to God. Jesus spoke of this very activity when He 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). Perhaps some forget that God is the object of our worship. We are to worship God in spirit and in truth. Our minds should be centered in worship, not on self and what pleases us, but on God and what pleases Him! Each avenue of worship has been designed specifically by God so that we might be reminded of God's love for us, His mercy toward us, and our dependence upon Him. As we worship in spirit and in truth our faith is strengthened. Now that's exciting!

Worship as God has prescribed is never boring to one who recognizes his or her unworthiness before God and who expresses thanksgiving and love to the one who makes forgiveness possible through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Let us "Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (Psa. 29:2).

## GOSPEL MEETING

April 10-14, 2016

with

**Garland Robinson**

Woodbury, TN

At the

**Green Plain church of Christ**

3980 Murray Paris Road—Hazel, KY

Services:

Sunday: 10 & 10:45 AM; 7:30 PM  
Monday– Thursday: 7:00 PM

**NEWS AND NOTES**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members:** Mary Lowrie, Frank and Maxine Pool, Paul and Sue Brandon, Lori Brandon, Jim Fielder, Alex Barrett, Rex Enoch, Steve Enoch and Mary Vincent. **Nursing Homes:** Myrtlene Towery, Marguerite Stubblefield, , Nancy Meacham, and Binitta Irvan. **Family and Friends:** Patricia Lovett Harold Pond, Harry Lovett, Naomi Pigg, Norman Parker, Janie Suiter, Betty Jeffcoat, Stacy Hedrick, Virgil Hale (Spring Creek), Kim Thomas, Kenneth Mizell, Stacy Hedrick, Cynthia Kearbey, Will and Nancy Winchester, Eva Darnell, Jason Sales, Kenny Stubblefield, Todd Hill, Wallace Parker, Ruthie Parker,, Lonnell Parker, Kenneth Starks and Bryan White.
- **Pantry items for March:** 6th—Canned Chicken; 13th—Green Beans; 20th—Peanut Butter; 27th—Paper Towels.
- **LOCAL EVENTS. *Work Day*** at the building Saturday, April 2nd at 9:00 am. Spring Gospel Meeting is scheduled for April 10-15, 2016 with Garland Robinson. Handouts for the meeting are available on the table in the front lobby.
- Please remember our **snacks for the hospital program** and place your items in the baskets in the lobby. Thanks for supporting this program.
- Continue to pray for Dean Crutchfield and the Lord’s work in India and brother Adam Evans and the Lord’s work in Tanzania. See the mission board for the latest reports from these respective works including letters from some of the Indian preachers supported by this congregation.
- **PASS IT ON!!** Please pass this bulletin on to a friend, relative, neighbor or fellow employee when you have finished reading it. Use it as a means to evangelize. Pick up some extra copies and distribute them to others.
- **AREA EVENTS:** Annual **West Kentucky Leadership Workshop** at the Briensburg church of Christ in Benton is scheduled for March 26th. The theme is *Building up the church through the Bible School*. There will be both men’s and women’s classes. **Spring Singing** at the Williams Chapel church of Christ, Friday, March 25th, 7-11 pm. See the bulletin board for details.
- If you have any announcements that should be included in the bulletin please submit them in writing before Thursday of each week. Thank you.
- Death makes it impossible to change ones eternal destiny. Only in this life may one make preparation for an eternal existence in heaven. Jesus said, *“Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect”* (Matthew 24:44). One may believe that he or she has plenty of time to make the necessary spiritual preparation before death. Yet, how many have thought the same thing only to die suddenly in an accident or by illness? We cannot be assured of tomorrow. *“Behold now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation”* (2 Corinthians 6:2).

**Today’s Lessons**  
*AM: “Which Church?”*  
*PM: Studies in James*  
*“Trials Produce Patience”*



**RESEARCH QUESTION**

*How many days did Jesus spend on the earth after His resurrection from the dead?*

**Last Week** How often was the year of the Lord’s release in the Old Testament?

**Answer:** Every seven years (Deut. 15:1ff).

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT**  
**greenplainchurchofchrist.org**  
 (Scan Image with your QR coder Reader to go to website)



### 3 QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU COMPLAIN

I know what you're thinking, Christians would never complain, right? I mean, the New Testament teaches us to love each other (John 13:34-35), to be content (Philippians 4:11), and to shine the light of God into the world (Matthew 5:16). And what does a Christian really have to complain about anyway? We've been redeemed of our sins by a God who loves us beyond measure, who cares for us, watches over us, provides for us, and has prepared an eternal home to one day deliver us (John 3:16). What could possibly happen in our lives that would cause us to lose sight of all of that and resort to complaining.

Sadly everything I just wrote is pure idealism. We live in the real world and in the real world complaining has existed among God's people as long as Christianity has been around. In Acts 6 there was a situation that arose shortly after the church was established that lead to some of the local Christians complaining.

"Now in these days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring of the Grecian Jews against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. And the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not fit that we should forsake the word of God, and serve tables. Look ye out therefore, brethren, from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will continue stedfastly in prayer, and in the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicollus a proselyte of Antioch; whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands upon them" (vs. 1-6).

In this text we can learn a few things that should lead us to ask 3 questions before we, as Christians, should ever complain about anything:

**Is the complaint legitimate?** In this case, the Grecian Jews had a legitimate complaint. When widows had no other family to which they could turn the New Testament entrusted their care to the church (1 Timothy 5:1ff; James 1:27). If these widows were actually being neglected then those Christians had every right to address that neglect so it could be fixed. There are a lot of things that come up in our lives that are legitimate causes for con-

cern. I think, though, if we were honest and objective with ourselves we would admit that many of the complaints we have in life prove to be less than legitimate. They may come in the form of personality differences, personal preferences, difference in judgments, etc. So the first thing we need to decide is whether or not our complaint is legitimate. If it isn't it would probably be better if we keep it to ourselves.

**Have I issued the complaint in a proper way?** I'm not really sure if we can say the Grecian Jews did or not. The way Acts 6 says they issued their complaint is kind of ambiguous. Did they complain among themselves until the apostles finally heard about it and chose to address it or did they go directly to the Hebrews and offer their grievance? The verse doesn't seem to be clear either way. But there is a right way and a wrong way to address a complaint. Paul condemned the idea of there being strife, jealousy, wraths, factions, backbitings, whisperings, swelling, and tumults among God's people (2 Corinthians 12:20). But on the other hand Jesus taught that if a person has an issue with someone they were to go to them (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15). So if I have a complaint and it is legitimate my next step should be to make sure that I issue that complaint in a proper way.

**What am I doing to be a solution?** Every complaint has a solution. The problem with constant complainers is that they assume that fixing the problem should always be somebody else's problem. In Acts 6 we don't really know how involved the actual complainers were as far as being any of the seven men chosen, but they apparently were at least involved in the process of choosing them and they wholeheartedly supported the solution. As far as we know from the text the widows received their care, the complainers were satisfied, the complaints ceased, and the unity of the church was never compromised. Could you imagine how much healthier the church would be if every complainer's first instinct was to be a solution to the problem? Simply put, if I'm not willing to be a solution to my complaint then I need to just keep my mouth shut.

There are few things more distasteful in life than constant complaining. But, realistically, there are some legitimate concerns that arise every now and then even among Christians. When those times come we need to check our attitudes and ask ourselves these questions to ensure that our motives are pure and a solution can be found. -Andy Brewer, via Coldwater church of Christ bulletin

**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.

A warm and friendly welcome awaits!



## Home Bible Study

*Please enroll me in a free Bible Study*

\_\_\_ "Back to the Bible" Home Bible Study (conducted by our teachers in your home or at our building)

\_\_\_ Free Bible Correspondence Course through the mail. (all postage paid)

\_\_\_ DVD—Searching for Truth (mailed to your home).

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Religious Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

- Clip and mail to: Green Plain Church of Christ—3980 Murray Paris Road- Hazel, KY 4204.9

## Green Plain School of Biblical Studies March 7—May 30, 2016

Each Consecutive Monday

7:00—9:00 pm

Studies on the books of  
Genesis & Joshua

### THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE March 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS: James Pigg

PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S TABLE

AM: Larry Enoch & Perry Jarvis

Substitute: Mike Ernstberger

ASSIST AT THE LORD'S TABLE:

AM: Chad Canter & Shaun Fuqua

Substitute: Dave Thompson

Sunday PM

3-6—Perry Jarvis

3-13—Chad Canter

3-20—Perry Jarvis

3-27—Chad Canter

OPENING PRAYER:

3-6—Mike Ernstberger

3-13—Jim Lowrie

3-20—John Sales

3-27—Hayes Grady

CLOSING PRAYER:

3-6—Preston Barrett

3-13—James Pigg

3-20—Bobby Hall

3-27—Jesse Vincent

COUNT CONTRIBUTION:

Chad Canter & Shaun Fuqua

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS

Katelyn & London

SONG LEADERS:

Sunday Morning: Charles Enoch

Sunday Evening: Larry Enoch

Wednesday: Cody Canter

Substitute: Mike Ernstberger

GREETERS: Jesse & Mary Vincent

USHER: Jesse Vincent

Greet the Elder: James Pigg

If you are unable to serve, please contact Chad Canter at 270-873-7509

**Thank YOU For Serving!!**