



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 42

January 21, 2024

Number 3

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:45 am  
and 2:00 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

- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

### Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison  
Cell: 270-978-7569

### Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David  
Nance, & Ronnie Gootam;  
Hatti/Cuba: Arnold Gerson

### Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ  
3980 Murray Paris Road  
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- [greenplaincoc@gmail.com](mailto:greenplaincoc@gmail.com)
- [greenplainchurchofchrist.org](http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org)

## FINDING PEACE IN THE STORMS OF LIFE—By Mike Riley

During a terrible storm on the ocean, a small passenger ship rolled precariously in the roaring tempest. The furniture and anything else that could move was tied down, and the passengers were confined to their bunks for their own safety. Many on board thought the vessel was doomed.

Finally, a passenger who was determined to find out if there was any hope for survival, set out to see the one who was in command. Clinging to the walls and handrails, he made his way to the wave-lashed deck, up a ladder, and into the wheelhouse. He noticed that the ship was nearing land and was between some jagged rocks. It became apparent that the captain was trying to reach the safety of a calm bay up ahead. Knowing he could not make himself heard above the roar of the wind and waves, the captain just turned wordlessly to the worried passenger and smiled. Reassured, the man returned to the others and said, “Don’t be afraid. All is well. I’ve seen the captain’s face, and he smiled!”

When we are battered by the storms of life, we may be tempted to give in to feelings of hopelessness. But if we will look to our sovereign Captain (Hebrews 2:10 KJV) and commit our way to Him ([Psalm 37:5](#)), we will find peace even in the midst of great turmoil. We can trust Him to bring us through the storm (Mark 4:36-41).

*Master, with anguish of spirit  
I bow in my grief today;  
The depths of my sad heart are  
troubled;  
O waken and save, I pray!*

*Torrents of sin and of anguish  
Sweep o’er my sinking soul!  
And I perish! I perish, dear  
Master;  
O hasten, and take control!*

*The winds and the waves shall  
obey Thy will, Peace be still!  
Whether the wrath of the storm-  
tossed sea,  
Or demons, or men, or whatever  
it be,  
No water can swallow the ship  
where lies,  
The Master of ocean and earth*

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**NEWS AND NOTES**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Green Plain members: Peggy Jarvis , Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Marie Wyatt and Jim and Mary Lowrie.

**Family and Friends:** Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Tommy Boggess, Kim Burrows, Nat Evans, Lucetria Hutchison, and Ted Clark.

**PANTRY ITEMS January 2024:** 7—Peanut Butter; 14-Jelly or Jam; 21-Tooth Paste; 28-Toothbrushes. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

**ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRECSPONDENCE COURSE.** Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD Hazel, KY 42049 or email your request to greenplaincoc@gmail.com.

**HOME BIBLE STUDY;** Request a **FREE** home Bible study—“*Back to the Bible*” for anyone who is interested in gaining more knowledge of the Bible. Contact us to set up a time for our teachers to come into your home or meet at our building to begin this study.

**January 2024; Anniversaries:** None **Birthdays:** 18-Karen Elkins; 28-Marjorie Grady. Please let us know if we have left anyone out.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREEN PLAIN:**

⇒ **Spring 2024 School of Biblical Studies** each Monday, March 4—April 29. Classes: Romans Part 2-Josh Manning and 2 Corinthians Part 2—Jack Phillips. The time will be 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

⇒ **Spring Gospel Meeting** April 7-11 with Bradley Smith preacher for the Hickory Grove church of Christ. Mark you calendars and pray for theses efforts!

**THSE TO SERVE January 2024**

Announcements: James Pigg

Table AM: Bobby Hall & Mike Ernstberger

Table PM: 7-Chad; 14-Bobby; 21-Chad; 28-Bobby

Opening Prayer AM: 7-Jonnie; 14-Perry; 21-James; 28-Jim L

Closing Prayer AM: 7-Roy; 14-Dave; 21-Brent; 28-Jesse

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

Count Contribution: Bobby & Mike

**If you cannot serve contact Chad Canter**



**WATCH  
AND HEAR  
THE  
GOSPEL  
24/7**

**GBNTV.ORG**

**GOSPEL  
BROADCASTING  
NETWORK**

*(Continued from page 1)*

**and skies;**  
**They all shall sweetly obey Thy will,**

**Peace be still! Peace be still! —Palmer**

—[Finding Peace In The Storms Of Life - GEWatkins.net](http://FindingPeaceInTheStormsOfLife.com)

## **BALANCING THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND HE FUTURE** *By Dan Jenkins*

We all share something in common and that is each one of us has a past, a present and a future in our lives. The Bible can help us to deal with these three aspects of living and understand how they fit in the lives we seek to live for Him. We must learn how to balance all of these in our lives.

**Consider our past.** There are those who look at their past and all they can see are the mistakes they have made. To focus on the blunders of the past is not healthy, and it can so easily create a sense of shame because of what we did. To focus on the blunders causes many to live in fear of the day of judgment. This results in an attitude of low self-esteem and depression. The Bible speaks with clarity about how to deal with those deeds of the past before we became Christians. Paul looked at his past and said, “Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward...I press toward the goal...” ([Phil. 3:13-14](#)). When your past mistakes press upon you, just remember that in one sense God does not even remember you did them ([Jer. 31:34](#))!

**Consider the future.** Before looking at the present, take time to realize what the Bible says about the future. The mistake that many make is that they think they know what lies ahead and that they control all that will happen to them. The Bible clearly says, “You do not know what will happen tomorrow” ([James 4:14](#)). Just before Jesus ascended, He reminded the apostles of an eternal truth. “It is not for you to know times or sea-

sons which the Father has put in His own authority” ([Acts 1:7](#)). What He has revealed about the future gives us glimpses of the end of this age and the coming judgment, but He has not revealed the tomorrows in our lives. How do we balance the unknown future in daily living? Keep this in mind. While we do not know what the future holds, we do know Him who holds the future. Trust Him!

**Consider the present.** We must never forget the importance of using this day to the fullest. We cannot change the mistakes of the past and we cannot know the events of tomorrow. Listen to God as He speaks of the events of today. The word “today” is found three times in Hebrews chapter three. It is used twice to show the importance of hearing the voice of God today and not be rebellious to what He says (vs. 7, 15). Read carefully what God says in verse thirteen. “Exhort one another daily, while it is called ‘Today,’ lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.” You might consider the prayer I heard of an older brother years ago. “Lord, I am lonely, my mate is dead and my children have almost forgotten me. Take me home tonight, but if there is anything I can do for you tomorrow, be sure to wake me up.” Make the most you can of today. Make sure you live a balanced life.

—[Balancing the Past, the Present and the Future - Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ \(pblcoc.org\)](http://BalancingthePastthePresentandtheFuture.com)

## LET GOD BE TRUE

By Jonnie Hutchison

Romans 3:4 reads, *“let God be true, but every man a liar.”* Does this statement mean that it is God’s desire that men tell lies? No. Revelation 21:8 places liars among those who will have “their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone.” Paul, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit wrote to Christians, *“Do not lie to one another”* (Colossians 3:9-10). It is obvious that God does not want anyone to tell a lie. The phrase then must mean something else entirely.

The idea expressed in Romans 3:4 is simply this: when God and men conflict God is always right, and man is always wrong. One of the reasons why there is so much religious division among those who claim to be following the same God is because men have refused to let God be TRUE. Far too many have forgotten that *“the way of man is not in himself, it is not in man that walks to direct his own steps”* (Jeremiah 10:23). The book of Proverbs tells us that *“there is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death”* (Prov. 14:12). The reason given as to why we must “let God be true, but every man a liar” is stated as *“That You may be justified in Your Words And may overcome when You are judged.”* One denominational creed book states, “That we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort.” Yet, the Word of God teaches, *“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only”* (James 2:24). Here is an obvious conflict between what men teach and what God teaches. Both cannot be true. One is right, the other is wrong. If one will “let God be true and every man a liar” which of the two teachings will he accept as true? Is it possible for one who teaches justification by “faith only” to be “justified in his words”? will that person “overcome” when he is judged by God? Friends, one is not going to be judged by any denominational creed book, church manual or confession of faith. All of us will be judged by the Word of God. Jesus taught, *“He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him — the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day”* (John 12:48).

Our plea to each reader is to search the Bible for yourself as to whether what you believe and practice in religion is from God (Acts 17:11). If you find there is conflict between what the Bible teaches and what you have always believed and practiced, **“Let God be true, but every man a liar.”**

### 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!

## Bible Study Opportunities

### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE

CLASS 10:00 AM

Book of I Timothy

### SUNDAY AM WORSHIP

10:45

“How Is Your Optimism?”

### SUNDAY PM WORSIP 2:00

“Glorifying God”

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Study of Premillennialism



A Bi-Weekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts