



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 41

January 29, 2023

Number 4

Schedule of Services

Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:45 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

- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David
Nance, & Ronnie Gootam;
MSOP—Eli Sales
BIM—Duston Pool.
Hatti/Cuba: Arnold Gerson

Location

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

WHAT IS SATAN REALLY LIKE?

A long time before Satan gained his paperback popularity, he was alive, ambitious, active, and achieving his objectives of deceiving, deluding, and destroying the souls of men.

Man's fertile imagination has produced many fanciful theories about Satan, some of which have been popularized through paperback books. However, the Bible has the only reliable information about Satan and what he is really like.

Satan is introduced in the book of Genesis. No explanation is given of his origin, but there is an unfolding drama of his work throughout the Bible. He is cast in the role of the adversary of man, an arrogant aspirant to the authority that belongs to God. Satan is a usurper of God's place in the heart of man. See him there, using enticement, deception, and falsehood. His subtle and beguiling ways have earned for him an appropriate name, "devil", or slanderer.

There are implications in Scripture that Satan is a spirit being who was formerly an angel. The Bible alludes to fallen angels in II Peter 2:4 and Jude 6. I John

3:8, states that the devil sinned from the beginning. Too, there is an indication that the devil came under condemnation (I Timothy 3:6).

Satan is called the "god of this world" II Corinthians 4:4. The world is Satan's arena. "World" as used here denotes people who are alienated from God, who are controlled by the thoughts and pursuits of this present time.

Paul wrote to the Ephesian Christians, referring to the contrast between their lost and saved state, "And you hath he (Christ) quickened . . ." Ephesians 2:1,2. Following the course of the world is to follow the rule of Satan, to have a spirit of rebellion and disobedience toward God.

These people who inhabit the devil's domain live in the passions of their flesh, following the desires of body and mind (Ephesians 2:3). They are hedonistic, blinded in their minds to the reality of sins' ultimate consequences (Romans 6:23). To them the pleasure, thrill and excitement of sin are real and immediate opportunities.

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Green Plain members:* Peggy Jarvis Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Mary Lowrie, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Junior Morris. And Mary Vincent.

Family and Friends: Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Roger Rhoades, Joel White, Nat Evans, Larry and Rose Wyatt. Bonnie Byerly, Kenny Arrington, Tommy Boggess, Tish Clarke, and Bobby Ward. Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine. Remember those this congregation is supporting in India.

NEW DIRECTORY: We are in the process of making a new picture directory of all members of the church here at Green Plain. Please check your information on the table in the lobby, make any needed corrections and place a check mark by it so that we will know you have checked it. We will be taking pictures again next Sunday (Feb. 5) for those who still need your picture taken. Thanks for your help.

PANTRY ITEMS January 2023: 1—Carrots; 8—Canned Meats; 15—Green Peas; 22—Paper Towels; 29—Black-eyed Peas.

January 2023; Anniversaries: None. **Birthdays:** 18—Karen Elkins; 26—Marjorie Grady. 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 Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD Hazel, KY 42049 or email your request to greenplaincoc@gmail.com. You may also enroll on our website.: greenplainchurchofchrist.org.

HOME BIBLE STUDY; We offer a FREE in-home Bible study entitled “Back to the Bible” for anyone who is interested in gaining more knowledge of the Bible. Simply contact us to schedule a time for your study.

THOSE TO SERVE JANUARY 2023

Announcements—James Pigg

Preside at Lord’s Table—Bobby & Mike

Lord’s Table PM: 1—Bobby; 8—Mike; 15—Bobby; 22—Mike;
29—Bobby

Opening Prayer AM

1—Jonnie; 8—Chad; 15—James; 22—Jim L.; 29—Mike

Closing Prayer AM

1—Perry; 8—Dave; 15—Junior; 22—Roy; 29—Jesse

Song Leaders

AM— Perry; PM—Mike; Wed—Chad

Count Contribution: Bobby & Mike



THE GOSPEL 24/7
GBNTV.ORG

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The sequence of sin is vastly different from the prospects used in the solicitation. "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death " James 1:15. Satan does not want us to realize that sin is "a moment of gratification but an eternity of remorse".

As surely as God's truth is the power by which one may be free from sin (John 8:32), and as surely as "he that committeth sin is of the devil" (I John 3:8), then to keep men in the sinning business is Satan's aim. To do it he perverts, withstands, distorts, corrupts, and misrepresents the truth of God. Men who so handle God's Word are Satan's agents (II Corinthians 11:3). Although Satan is alive and active, HE DOES NOT HOLD IRRESISTABLE RULE OVER MEN. The devil is strong, but only God is omnipotent.

God's people can resist the devil (James 4:7). They have the power of faith to stand against the enemy.

The gospel of Christ, God's very power to save, shackles Satan. In his encounter with the tempter, Jesus forcefully demonstrated the technique of denying his solicitations with the use of "it is written". Our instruction is to withstand him by faith (I Peter 5:9), and faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Jesus, the living word, "gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father" Galatians 1:4.

Satan can be confronted and defeated in his own arena!

—Author Unknow via Interactive Bible Home Page www.bible.ca

“A CHURCH” OR “THE CHURCH” By Jonnie Hutchison

Have you considered the question, “Of which church should one be a member?” When one speaks of “the church” thoughts usually turn to “a church” rather than “the church.” People associate the word “church” with the many Protestant denominations and other religious bodies which number in the thousands. The phrase, “Join the church of your choice” has come to be the accepted norm in the minds of most people regarding “a church.” The idea is advanced that it really doesn’t make any difference which church one joins, the most important thing is one’s faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

It never seems to occur to people that the term church as used in the New Testament never refers to modern denominationalism or human religious bodies. In the New Testament there was only **one church**, not thousands. Jesus did not promise to build thousands of different kinds of churches. He only promised to build one which He described as “**my church**” (Matthew 16:18). Our Lord built his church on the first Pentecost following His resurrection from the dead and His ascension into heaven. It belongs to Him for He is the one who died to purchase it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). Before the events of Acts 2 the Lord’s church is always

spoken of in the future tense. But in Acts 2:47 the church is spoken of in the present tense. Logic dictates that we conclude then that “**the church**” that Jesus promised to build was built in the city of Jerusalem on the first Pentecost following the ascension of Jesus into heaven. “**A church**” that was established at some other time in some other location is not “**the church**” that Jesus built.

Many fail to understand that “**the church**” is the prophesied kingdom of the Old Testament. The many Old Testament prophecies concerning the place of its establishment (Jerusalem — Isaiah 2:1-2; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:), the time of its establishment (in the last days — Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-22); and that the kingdom would come with power (the power came on Pentecost — Mark 9:1; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:6-8; Acts 2:1-4) all prove that the kingdom and “**the church**” refer to the same divine institution.

“**The church**” did not originate in the mind of man. God purposed “**the church**” as an integral part of His plan for man’s salvation from sin (Ephesians 3:10-11). That means that “**the church**”

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was neither an accident nor a last minute replacement for a failed kingdom as taught by those who hold to the false doctrine of premillennialism. Since “the original church” originated with God and was established by Jesus Christ, any religious body that originated with man and was established by man is not the church we read about in the New Testament.

“The church” existed in different localities and cities in New Testament times. We read about “the church” in Jerusalem, Antioch, Corinth and Thessalonica. Paul writes of “every church” (1 Corinthians 4:17). However, “the church” and “every church” in these various locations did not differ in belief or practice. They were not Protestants, Pentecostals, or members of any denomination. They were all members of the same body (church—Eph. 1:22-23), were united in one Spirit and held to one hope. They recognized only one head—Jesus Christ, were of one faith and practiced one baptism in serving the one God (Ephesians 4:3-6). They did not differ in name, teaching, or religious practice. How unlike modern “churches” who are divided in name, teach and practice different and conflicting things, and are horribly divided.

Friends, Paul and Peter were members of the same church — the one that Jesus built. Those in Jerusalem and those in Antioch were members of the same church — the one that Jesus built. Yet, not a one of them ever joined the Lord’s church. Each one was added to the church by Jesus Christ upon responding in the very same

way in obedience to the commands of the gospel to hear (Romans 10:17), believe (John 8:24), repent of sin (Acts 17:30), confess with the mouth their faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10) and were baptized (immersed in water) into Christ for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; Gal. 3:26-27 and 1 Peter 3:21).

While Jesus is the Savior of “the church” (Eph. 5:23-27), he has never promised to save “a church.” Why be a member of “a church” when you can be a member of “the church”? Why join a man-made “church” when you may be added by the Lord to “the church” which He built? We plead with you to flee man-made churches and submit in humble obedience to the gospel of Christ. The Lord will then add you to “the church.” (Acts 2:47). Surely we can see that if we respond in obeying exactly what those whom the Lord added to His church in New Testament times did, that we will be what they were. Simply Christians, members of “the church”, the spiritual body of Christ, which the Lord built.

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build **My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against **it**.” (Matthew 16:18).

“And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to **the church**,²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” (Ephesians 1:22-23.)

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



SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE

CLASS 10:00 AM

“The Book of Acts”

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP 10:45

Guest Speaker

Ron Hutchison

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP 6:00

5th Sunday Singing

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

“A Study of the

Book of Matthew”



A Bi-Weekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts