



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

October 17, 2021

Number 40

Schedule of Services

Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:50 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible

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;
MSOP—Eli Sales

Location

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

AT WHAT POINT DOES SALVATION OCCUR?

By Jonnie Hutchison

Because of His great love for each of us, God in His grace offers forgiveness of sins through the blood of Jesus. *“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him”* (Romans 5:8-9). God’s offer to pardon us from sin is **not** unconditional. There is a necessary response on our part to His gracious offer. The Bible tells us that we are saved *“by grace through faith”* (Ephesians 2:8). Grace is God’s part—faith is man’s response to God’s grace. The faith that responds to God’s grace is expressed in obedience to what God has commanded for salvation (Hebrews 5:8-9). These truths raise the question of what has God commanded for salvation and at what point in man’s response to God’s commands does salvation occur?

God commands that one believe Jesus Christ is the Son of

God. Jesus said, *“Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins”* (John 8:24). Does salvation occur at the point of faith? Many so believe. However, the Bible teaches that one is **NOT** saved by faith only. James 2:24 reads, *“You see then that a man is justified by works, and **not by faith only.**”* Faith must be accompanied by works of obedience as illustrated by Abraham in James 2:21-22, *“Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?”* Abraham believed God and expressed his faith in obedience to what God commanded. He was not justified by simply believing, but in believing and obeying. There is no passage that teaches one reaches the blood of Jesus at the point of faith.

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Peggy Jarvis, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Mary and Jim Lowrie and Mary and Jesse Vincent.

Family and Friends: Teresa Tacker, Bryan White, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Charlotte and Johnny Parker, Roger Rhoades,, Joel White, Mary Lou Joseph, Jennie Pool. Nat and Rita Evans and Larry and Rose Wyatt. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list.

- **COVID INFO:** Reports are indicating a reduction in Covid cases in our county and we have been removed from the red zone. This is certainly good news. However, for now, 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 October 2021: 3—Paper Towels; 10—Baked Beans; 17—Pickles; 24—Jelly; 31—Peanut Butter.** 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.
- **October 2021 Anniversaries:** 21-Vickie & Chad Canter . **Birthdays:** 8-Jim Fielder; 18—Perry Jarvis; 29-Bobby Hall. Please let us know if we have left anyone out.
- **ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRECSPONDENCE COURSE.** Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to the address on the first page of this bulletin.
- **UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS:** Our Annual Chili supper is scheduled for November 5th at 6:00 pm.
- *Whenever you begin to think that obeying God is not worth the effort, "Remember Lot's wife!" (Luke 17:32).*

Those to Serve October 2021

Announcements—Mike Ernstberger

Preside at Lord's Table—Bobby Hall & Larry Enoch

Lord's Table PM: 3rd-Bobby Hall; 10th-Lrry Enoch; 17th-Bobby Hall; 24th-Larry Enoch; 31st-Bobby Hall

Opening Prayer AM: 3rd-Jonnie Hutchison; 10th-Chad Canter; 17th-James Pigg; 24th-Jim Lowrie; 31st-Mike Ernstberger

Closing Prayer AM: 3rd-Perry Jarvis; 10th-Mike Ernstberger; 17th-Junior Morris; 24th-Roy Wyatt; 31st-Jesse Vincent

Song Leaders: AM-Perry Jarvis; PM-Mike Ernstberger; Wed: Chad Canter

Counter Contribution: Bobby & Larry Usher: Chad

LESSONS TODAY

AM Bible Study

The Book of Acts

Worship

AM— *The Irreplaceable Assembly*

PM— *Some Thoughts on Singing*

Wednesday Bible Class

A Study of 1 John

(Continued from page 1)

God commands that one repent of sins. Acts 17:30 reads, *“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.”* Genuine repentance requires “godly sorrow” and a change in the direction of one’s life (2 Corinthians 7:10; Matthew 21:28-29). When one repents of a sin, he changes his mind about it and ceases to practice it. Does salvation then occur at the point of repentance? Paul taught the Gentiles *“that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance”* (Acts 26:20). This implies that repentance alone is not sufficient for salvation. After one repents he then must “do works befitting repentance.” There is no passage that teaches one reaches the blood of Jesus when he/she repents.

God commands one’s confession of faith in Christ. Jesus said that if we confess Him before men He will confess us before the Father in heaven (Matthew 10:32-33). An example of this confession is found in Acts 8:37 where the Ethiopian confessed, *“I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”* Does salvation occur at the point of confessing Christ as the Son of God? Romans 10:10 teaches that “confession is made **unto** (not into) salvation.” Again, there is no passage in the New Testament that teaches one reaches the blood of Jesus at the point of confessing faith in Christ.

God commands baptism in water. Jesus said, *“He who believes and is baptized shall be saved; he who does not believe shall be condemned”* (Mark 16:16). Those who sought salvation in Acts 2 were told in verse 38 to *“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”* Does salvation occur at the point of baptism? Yes! There is a passage that shows one reaches the blood of Christ at the point of baptism. Romans 6:3 reads, *“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”* What is the significance of being baptized into the death of Jesus? It was in His death that Jesus shed His blood (John 19:34). In contacting His death in baptism one spiritually contacts His blood which washes away his sins. This is why Ananias told Saul in Acts 22:16, *“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”*

Faith, repentance, and the confession of faith are all necessary for each is clearly commanded by God as perquisites to salvation. But salvation occurs at the point of baptism into the death of Jesus for the remission of sins. This is when and where the blood of Jesus Christ is applied. So, why are you waiting? *“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ”* (Galatians 3:27).



THE GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK

THE GOSPEL 24/7

GBNTV.ORG



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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A LIFE WITHOUT GOD *By Jonnie Hutchison*

Do you need God in your life? A great many people are answering no to that question. As a matter of fact, many would tell you that having God in their lives would be too restrictive and an unnecessary burden. Having God in one's life requires the exercise of self-control, refraining from the pleasures of sin and putting God's will above one's own will. However, choosing not to have God in one's life has consequences.

If you choose to live your life without God you will live your life without the benefits of His love. "God is love" (1 John 4:8). God loves every person and has demonstrated His love in the giving of Jesus Christ as a sacrifice for the sins of the world (John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9). God even loves those who decide to live their lives without Him. But those who make that choice will not receive the benefits of God's love which includes the forgiveness of sin and the hope of eternal life in heaven. Yes, if you choose to live your life without God you are choosing to live it without the benefits of God's love.

If you choose to live your life without God you are choosing to live your life without His divine help and guidance. God has given us His divine will in the Bible to guide us in the path of life. The prophet Jeremiah was inspired to write, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jer. 10:23). Humanism says that man is completely self-sufficient and does not need the God of the Bible. Spiritually speaking without accepting the help and guidance of God's

Word in our lives we have no real sense of direction and we become hopelessly lost. While men often fail their fellow man, God will never "leave us or forsake us" but will guide us through the negative issues of life. Yet, if you choose to live your life without God you will live it without His divine help and guidance.

If you choose to live your life without God you will live your life without hope. Hope is described in the Bible as "the anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast" (Hebrews 6:19). The hope of the Christian is the fulfillment of the promise of eternal life in heaven with God (1 John 2:25). Only those who choose to have God in their lives possess this hope. If one rejects God he has only eternal hopelessness and regrets in his future (Matthew 25:46).

The truth is that all of us need God in our lives for without Him there is no love, no help and no hope. May we help you to discover how you can have God in your life? Contact us at the Green Plain church of Christ, 3980 Murray Paris Road, Hazel, KY 42049.

*I will sing to the LORD,
 Because He has dealt
 bountifully with me.
Psalm 13:6*