



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 41

October 8, 2023

Number 38

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;
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

WHERE DID GOD COME FROM By Eric Lyons

Where did God come from? Most everyone knows the Christian's response to this question: "God is eternal. He did not 'come from' anywhere." Although atheists may think that this answer is unscientific and merely an attempt to avoid the question, in truth, observation and reason declare otherwise.

The question "Where did God come from?" (or "What caused God?") **assumes** that God had a cause. However, by definition, an **eternal** spirit ("the everlasting God") cannot logically have a cause. Asking about **God's cause** (or origin) is as incoherent as asking "Why matter is eternal?" Matter is not eternal. Matter is no more an eternal essence **without** a cause than God is a physical being **with** a cause. Asking "where did God come from?" is like asking "when did eternity start?" By definition, eternity never began. Eternity, by definition, is without beginning and end. By definition, so is God.

Consider that **in nature**, matter and energy are neither created nor destroyed. Scientists refer to this observed fact as the

First Law of Thermodynamics. Evolutionists allege that the Universe began with the explosion of a ball of matter 13 to 14 billion years ago, yet they never have provided a reasonable explanation for the cause of the "original" ball of matter. Evolutionist David Shiga made an attempt a few years ago in an issue of *New Scientist* magazine in his cover story, "The Beginning: What Triggered the Big Bang." Interestingly, in the last line of the article, Shiga admitted: "[T]he quest to understand the origin of the universe seems destined to continue until we can answer a deeper question: **why is there anything at all instead of nothing?**"¹ The fact is, a logical, naturalistic explanation for the origin of the "original" ball of matter that supposedly led to the Universe does not exist. It cannot exist so long as the First Law of Thermodynamics is true (that matter and energy cannot create themselves).

Since the physical Universe exists, and yet it could not have created itself, then the Uni-

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NEWS AND NOTES

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

Family and Friends: Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Roger Rhoades, Bonnie Byerly, Tommy Boggess (Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville), David Lemmons, Kim Burrows, and Lucetria Hutchison.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Calvin Hall who passed from this life this past week. Our love goes out to Debbie and Mike and all the family. Funeral arrangements are visitation from 5-8 pm today and the funeral service will be at JH Churchill at 11:00 am tomorrow (Monday 9th).

OUR SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES SCHEDULE CHANGE: Due to a conflict, the School of Biblical Studies **will not meet this Monday, October 9th.** We will resume classes the following Monday, October 16th. Due to this change, our last class originally scheduled for November 6th will be extended to November the 13th.

TRACTS & DVD'S AVAILABLE for free in the front lobby on a variety of Bible subjects. Feel free to browse these titles and take those of interest to you.

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.

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.

PANTRY ITEMS October 2023: 1—Pork-n-Beans; 8-Peaches; 15-Stewed Tomatoes; 22-Soups; 29—Childrens tooth brushes. All items must be **non-perishable or canned.**

THSE TO SERVE October 2023

Announcements: James Pigg

Table AM: Bobby H. & Mike E.

Table PM: 1-Chad; 18-Bobby; 15-Chad;
22-Bobby; 29-Chad

Opening Prayer AM: 1-Jonnie; 18-Perry;
15-James; 22-Jim; 29-Mike

Closing Prayer AM: 1-Roy; 8-Dave; 15-Junior;
22-Chad; 29-Jesse

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

Count Contribution: Bobby & Mike

Fall Session School of Biblical Studies



September 18-November 13

Each Monday 7:00—9:00 pm

Everyone Is Invited!

Romans—Josh Manning

Daniel—Luke Puckett

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verse is either eternal, or else some thing or some One outside of the Universe must have created it. Relatively few scientists propose that the Universe is eternal. In fact, there would be no point in attempting to explain the “beginning” of the Universe (with a Big Bang, for example) if scientists believed it has always existed. What’s more, the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which states that matter and energy become less usable over time, has led scientists to conclude that the Universe has not always existed; that is, it is **not** eternal.²

So why don’t the laws of thermodynamics or the law of causality³ apply to God? Because these scientific laws, like **all** scientific laws, apply to what we find and study **in nature**. Again, by definition, God is **not natural** and thus logically is not subject to the laws of **nature**.

In short, if matter is not eternal, and it cannot create itself, then the only logical conclusion is that some thing or some One outside of nature (i.e., supernatural) caused the material Universe and everything in it. Christians call this Someone, “the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 40:28).

—Apologeticspress.org

Endnotes

1. David Shiga (2007), “The Universe Before Ours,” *New Scientist*, 194[2601]:33, April 28.

2 For additional information on the Laws of Thermodynamics, see Jeff Miller (2013), “Evolution and the Laws of Science: The Laws of Thermodynamics,” <https://apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?article=2786>.

3 This law states that “every material effect must have an adequate antecedent or simultaneous cause.” For more information, see Jeff Miller (2011), *Evolution and the Laws of Science: The Law of Causality*, <https://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=9&article=3716>.

PREACHING THE TRUTH

Preaching is very important but not all preaching saves. It is the truth that sets man free (John 8:32). Satan himself is transformed into “an angel of light” and his ministers into “ministers of righteousness” (2 Cor. 11:13-15). Teachers of error and false doctrine can appear to be pious and virtuous.

They may by “good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple” (Rom. 16:18). Some people do not know anything about the Bible except their preacher’s telephone number. They rely on their preacher to explain any verse that appears to contradict

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UPCOMING AREA EVENTS:

- ⇒ **Gospel Meeting** at the Coldwater church of Christ, October 8-11, 2023 with Alan Adams.
- ⇒ **Gospel Meeting** at the Walnut Grove church of Christ in Benton, KY October 22-23 with Michael May. Theme “We Can Fulfill the Great Commission.” Sunday services 9:00 & 10:30 am; 1:30 pm; Monday 7:00 pm.
- ⇒ **1st Annual Tent Singing** at the Coldwater church of Christ, October 27, 2023 beginning at 6:00 pm.

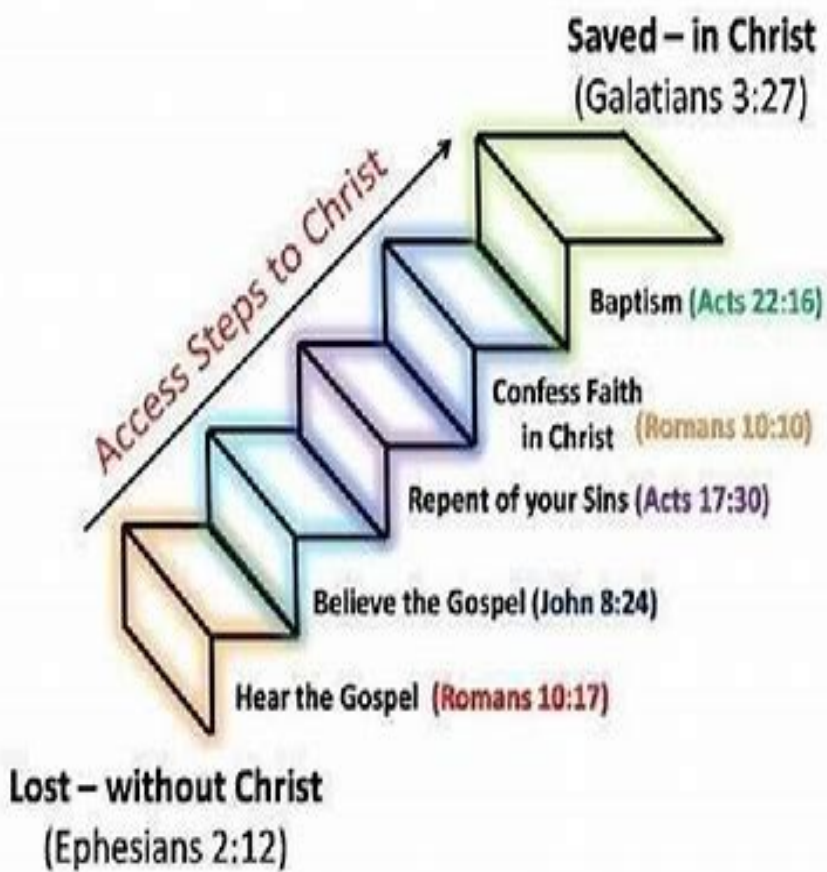
See the bulletin board for details

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their doctrines. Jesus said that even their worship is vain if they teach “for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matt. 15:9).

Faithful preachers proclaim the truth even if it sometimes causes resentment. When Stephen declared the truth, his hearers “stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord” (Acts 7:57). The apostle Paul stated that he did not count his life dear unto him, but shunned not “to declare unto you all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:24-27). The people of Berea searched the scriptures daily to determine whether the things being taught were so (Acts 17:11). “Buy the truth and sell it not” (Prov. 23:23). “Speaking the truth in love” Eph. 4:15). Seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the truth” (1 Peter 1:22).

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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!

Bible Study Opportunities

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10:00 AM
Study of I Thessalonians

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP 10:45
“Many Or The Few?”

SUNDAY PM WORSIP 6:00
“Are You Discouraged?”

Wednesday 7:00 pm
Study of Matthew



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