



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 40

December 11, 2022

Number 50

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

DID JESUS AFFIRM A GAY COUPLE?

By David Dann

While driving along the interstate I recently noticed a large billboard, sponsored by a pro-homosexual agenda group, which states: "Jesus affirmed a gay couple." The billboard includes Matthew 8:5-13 as a Scripture reference in support of this bold assertion. Does the passage in question contain a story of Jesus interacting in an approving manner with a homosexual couple? Matthew 8:5-13 reads as follows:

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed,

"Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"...Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

1. The passage makes no mention of a "gay couple." The story recorded in Matthew 8:5-13 is one in which Jesus responds to the faith of a centurion by miraculously healing the centurion's servant. The text is devoid of even the slightest hint of a "gay couple," of homosexual behavior, or of the Lord affirming the practice of homosexuality. Only one with a perverted mind would attempt to read such things into the story. Truly, *"To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled"* (Titus 1:15).

2. What about passages that do mention homosexuality? Rather than attempt to use a story in Matthew which has nothing to do with homosexuality to promote the homosexual agenda, why

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Peggy Jarvis, Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Mary Lowrie, Hayes and Margorie Grady, Mary and Jesse Vincent, and Brent Morris.

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 Jill Setter. Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine. Remember those this congregation is supporting in India.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Deb Ahart who passed from this life this past week. Funeral arrangements include visitation from 3-8 pm on Monday the 12th at Imes in Murray. The funeral will be conducted on Tuesday at the 13th at 11:00 am at Imes.

PANTRY ITEMS December 2022: 4—Canned Tomatoes; 11—Canned Peaches; 18—Apple Sauce; 25—Mixed Vegetables.

December 2022 Anniversaries: 17—Mary & Jesse Vincent; 22—Marjorie & Hayes Grady; **Birthdays:** 7—Mike Ernstberger; 9—Debbie Ernstberger; 12—Wanda Barrett (Murray); 12—Jesse Vincent; 16—Cody Canter; 17—Marie Wyatt; 18—Wanda Barrett (Hazel); Please let us know if we have left anyone out.

ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE. Send your name, mailing address and phone number to the address on the first page of this bulletin. We will send you the first lesson of the course with a self-addressed stamped envelope for you to return the lesson for grading. Upon completion of the course you will receive a certificate of completion.

BACK TO THE BIBLE is a free home Bible study where our teachers sit down around your kitchen table with open Bibles and present the original gospel of Christ. If you are interested in this study, simply contact us in person, by phone at 270-978-7569 or email us at greenplaincoc@gmail.com.

THOSE TO SERVE DECEMBER 2022

Announcements—Mike

Preside at Lord's Table—James & Chad
Lord's Table PM: 4-Chad; 11-James; 14-Chad; 18-James;
27-Chad

Opening Prayer AM

4-Jim L.; 11-Mike; 18-Jonnie; 25-Bobby

Closing Prayer AM

4-Roy; 11-Dave; 18-Junior; 25-Perry

Song Leaders

AM— Perry; PM-Chad; Wed-Mike
Count Contribution: James & Chad

Thanks for Serving!

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NETWORK
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questions*

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does the billboard not instead focus on Romans, which says of the Gentiles, *"For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due"* (Rom. 1:26-27)? If homosexual behavior is under discussion, then why not make reference to a passage that actually addresses homosexual behavior, such as 1 Corinthians, which states: *"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God"* (1 Cor. 6:9-10)? If the topic of discussion is the Bible's treatment of homosexuality, then why not examine those passages in Scripture which directly address that topic?

3. Jesus **did** condemn homosexuality. Contrary to the blasphemous claim that, "Jesus affirmed a gay couple," Scripture demonstrates that He actually denounced homosexuality as sinful. For example, Jesus said, *"But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies"* (Matt. 15:18-19). The term "fornications" (Gr. porneia) is defined as: "1) illicit sexual intercourse 1a) adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism..." (Strong's data, Bibleworks 4.0). Jesus did address homosexuality in the book of Matthew; He condemned it in Matthew 15, rather than affirming it in Matthew 8.

Conclusion: Do not be deceived by the shameful and deceptive tactics of those who promote the homosexual agenda. Jesus never "affirmed" the sinful condition of any sinner, but rather demands of sinners that they, "Sin no more" (John 5:14).

PERVERTING THE ORIGINAL GOSPEL *By Jonnie Hutchison*

When the inspired Paul wrote the letter to the church in Galatia, he warned them against accepting a "different gospel," that is, something other than the original. He wrote, *"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a **different gospel**, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to **pervert the gospel of Christ**. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."* (Galatians 1:6-9). Is this

warning relevant in the year 2022? Are the consequences for accepting a different or perverted gospel the same now as when these words were written?

The original gospel of Christ is clearly revealed in the pages of the New Testament. What Jesus and inspired men taught and wrote constitute the original. To accept any teaching or religious practice today that contradicts what one may read in the New Testament is to pervert the original gospel. For example, where in the New Testament does one read of the religious hierarchy of Roman Catholicism? Where does one read of danc-

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ing, drama presentations or the blessing of animals as acts of worship? Where does one read of any person being saved by praying the so-called “sinner’s prayer”? Where does the original gospel speak of the clergy/laity system so prevalent in modern denominational churches? Where does one read in the original gospel of Baptists, Methodists, Evangelicals, Mormons, Jehovah’s Witnesses, et al? Since none of these are found in the original gospel, do they not constitute a different or perverted gospel? If not, why not?

It is the aim of faithful churches of Christ to restore and follow the original pattern of New Testament Christianity. To return to the original gospel. To speak only where the Bible speaks and to remain silent where the Bible is silent. There can be no original church without a determination to follow the original gospel and to reject the doctrines and commandments originated by men. Remember the words of Jesus, “*And in vain they do worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men*” (Matthew 15:9). Yes, there are “some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.” Please, do not accept a perverted gospel. Instead follow the divine pattern of the original gospel.

WHAT CAN WASH AWAY **YOUR SINS**?

“...Unto Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in **His own blood.**” Rev. 1:5b

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Bible Study OPPORTUNITIES



**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE
 CLASS 10:00 AM**
 “*The Book of Acts*”

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP 10:45
 “*What Christ Does For You, In
 You and With You*”

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP 6:00
 “*Miracle at a Wedding*” John 2

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM
 “*A Study of the
 Minor Prophets*”

WEEKLY PODCAST

“*Around the Spiritual Table*”

In the *Around the Spiritual Table* Podcast, we will discuss various Bible topics and answer your Biblical and spiritual questions. To submit a topic or question for discussion, please email spiritualtable101@gmail.com. Come sit around the spiritual table with us.

Presented by the Coldwater & Dexter churches of Christ Host: Luke Puckett

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