



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

December 613 2020

Number 50

Schedule of Services

- 10:00 AM
Sunday
Worship
- 7:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible Study

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
McKenzie, TN—Paul Jones

Location

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

“I WILL COME AGAIN” *By Jonnie Hutchison*

As Jesus was comforting His disciples regarding His soon coming death on the cross, He stated, “...I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, you may be also” (John 14:1-3). When Jesus ascended into heaven in the presence of these same disciples, angels declared to them, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, **will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.**” (Acts 1:11).

We do not know **when** Christ will come again, but the Word of God assures us He will. His coming will be like the coming of a thief, sudden and unexpected. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3 reads, “*For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.*” When Jesus comes He will judge each of us and pronounce what our eternal destination will be based upon our how we chose to live our

lives. “*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad*” (2 Corinthians 5:10). In Matthew 25 Jesus gives a more detailed picture of this judgment and the separation that will occur between the lost and the saved. Concerning the lost Jesus says, “*These shall go into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life*” (Matthew 25:46). The words everlasting and eternal are translated from the same Greek word which indicates that the duration of the punishment for those who are lost is the same as the reward for those who are saved.

Yes, Jesus said, “***I will come again.***” Have you made preparation for His coming? When He comes it will be too late. You have no assurance you will see tomorrow. Now is the day of salvation! (2 Corinthians 6:2). Seriously, think about it!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

7:00 PM

A Study of I Timothy

NEWS AND NOTES

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

Family and Friends: Helen Tidwell, Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, , Janice Canter, , Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Sandra Cook Downs, Kevin Smith, Walter Lee Steely, Carol Pigg and Dale Pentecost.

- **WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY:** We will continue meeting each Sunday morning at 10:00 am for worship and on Wednesday at 7:00 pm for Bible study. All other services are cancelled until further notice.
- **PANTRY ITEMS December 2020:** 6—Peanut Butter; 13—Mixed Vegetables; 20—Canned Meats; 27—Creamed Corn. 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.
- **See our Facebook page** for announcements, updates and articles. Access to past editions of this bulletin are available on our website at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.
- **Mission Work:** Please continue to pray for the preachers this congregation is supporting in India and for Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- **December 2020 Anniversaries:** 17—Mary & Jesse Vincent; 22—Marjorie & Hayes Grady. **Birthdays:** 5—Nathan Hale; 7—Mike Ernstberger; 9—Debbie Ernstberger; 12 - Wanda Barrett (Murray Paris RD); 12—Jesse Vincent; 14—Faye Travis; 18—Wanda Barrett (Green Plain RD); 16—Cody Canter; 17—Marie Wyatt; 18—Rex Enoch; 21—Larry Enoch; If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- **We offer FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES through the mail. Enroll on our website or send your name and return mailing address to the address on the first page of this bulletin. You may also call 270-978-7569 or you may email us at greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org.**

ONLINE SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Gospel Broadcasting Network
<https://gbntv.org/>

World Video Bible School
<https://store.wvbs.org/wvbs-splashpage.html>

A Bible Answer
<https://abibleanswertv.org/>

Good News Today
<http://gnttv.org/>

In Search of the Lord's Way
<http://searchtv.org/>



BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

This Week: What was the sign or figurehead of the Alexandrian ship on which Paul sailed to Rome?

Last Week: Where was John when he received the book of Revelation?

Answer: When John received the Revelation he was on the isle of Patmos located off the southwest coast of modern Turkey. (Revelation 1:9).

HARD LESSON TO LEARN By Freddie Clayton

It is that “lessons that we learn don’t stay ‘learned’”....

The Bible is full of “teaching moments” – circumstances and instructions intended to help us avoid some of the same consequences suffered by our ancestors. The record of them is left “for our learning” (**Romans 15:4**). Israel’s sad decline and eventual destruction is well documented in Old Testament History – Paul says these things were “written as an example, and are for OUR admonition” (**I Corinthians 10:11**).

Generally speaking, worldliness, materialism, complacency and compromise brought Israel to its knees, and its ultimate downfall – and yet, here WE are! Soothing platitudes, teaching designed for itching ears, and a lack of needed knowledge – due in large part to the self-serving omission by its “leaders” of the downside to disobedience--made Israel vulnerable to apostasy and idolatry. But, again, here WE are.

And we need not go that far back – each generation faces similar dangers, with similar results. Over my life time (and that of other “old folks” like me) there have been several predictable cycles of the ebb and flow of effective and distinctive discipleship. Issues of worldliness, materialism, complacency and

compromise were not just Israel’s problem – they are ours as well. One would be hard pressed to find a congregation today that was strong and distinctive 50 years ago...their failure to “stay learned” is obvious in the stages of their evolution - most have either imbibed the “spirit of the age” (turning to gimmicks and a changing dynamic to survive, even in a corrupted form), or dwindled down to a few who remember the “former glory”, and day dream about it to each other and to the next unstirred and unmotivated generation.

Preachers and elders with less than pure motives and less than adequate knowledge of the principles and plan of God continually leave us exposed to the "ravaging wolves" that are always near. As it is said, “those who refuse to learn from history are doomed to repeat it”.... Praise God for the few who prove themselves exceptions to the rule – in some places there are encouraging signs. Whether they prove to be fruitful will depend in part upon the impact the lessons of the past have made upon them. It has always been a fight, and the weapons never change. Let us not forget the lessons we have learned or how to use them!

—Adapted from *Dunlap church of Christ*
Freddie Clayton - [Dunlap Church of Christ \(dunlapcoc.org\)](http://Dunlap Church of Christ (dunlapcoc.org))

GET ON TRACK AND STAY THERE!

A man bought a new hunting dog. Eager to see how he would perform, he took him out to track a bear. No sooner had they gotten into the woods than the dog picked up the trail. Suddenly he stopped, sniffed the ground, and headed in a new direction. He had caught the scent of a deer that had crossed the bear’s path. A few moments later he halted again, this time smelling a raccoon that had crossed the path of the deer. Then a

turkey, a rabbit, and so on, until finally the breathless hunter caught up with his dog, only to find him barking triumphantly down the hole of a field mouse.

One of the things for which Paul prayed was for his brethren in Colossae to be able to “approve the things that are excellent” (Phil. 1:10). He used a word here that was common among metallurgists. As they tested the quali-

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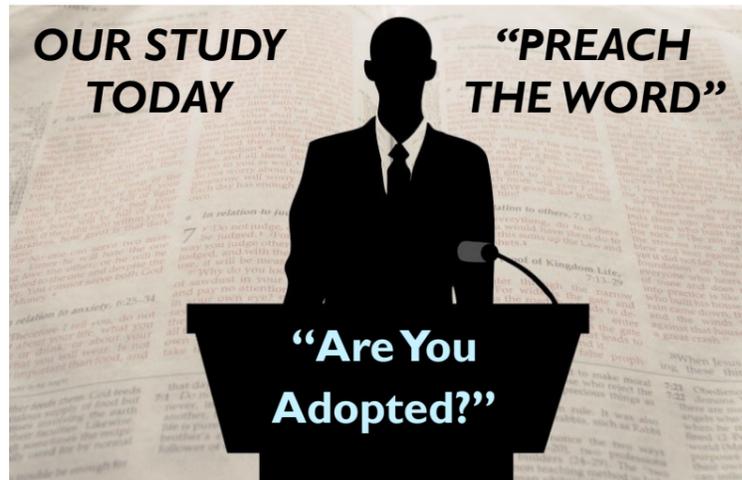
COME VISIT WITH US

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!

A warm and friendly welcome awaits!

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ty of metal, they “approved” in the metal that which was genuine. It is used in this passage of testing that which is good or evil. That is not always easy. Easy or not, it is the thing responsible Christians must do.

Our faith gets involved in this. We should test the excellency of our personal faith. Peter informed his readers that “for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials” but also told them how beneficial such would be. He concluded, that “your faith, which is more precious than all the gold in the world, may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed” (1 Pet. 1:6-7). The word “proved” here is the same as in Col. 1:10).

Often Christians start out with

high resolve, putting the kingdom of God first in their lives, but their attention is soon diverted to things of lesser worth. One pursuit leads to another until they’ve strayed far from their original purpose. Let us do our best to put first things first. So, take the divine admonition and stay on track and let nothing cause you to deviate from the straight and narrow way.

“Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you” (Prov. 4:25).

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matt. 6:33).

—[Get On Track and Stay There \(vscoc.org\)](http://Get On Track and Stay There (vscoc.org))