



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 41

February 5, 2023

Number 5

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

IS THE GRASS REALLY GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE?

By Jonnie Hutchison

I have witnessed many times down through the years cattle in lush green fields with plenty of grass to graze on reaching through a barbed wired fence for the grass that was on the other side. Of



course, cattle do not reason as we humans do. Yet, it may very well be the case that sometimes humans reason like cattle. When it comes to sin is the grass really greener on the other side of the fence?

God has blessed all of us with multiple natural and physical blessings. Paul said to the citizens of the great city of Athens that God “*made the world and everything in it*” and has given us “*life and breath and all things*” (Acts 17:24-25). Jesus said that God “*makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust*” (Matthew 5:45). These physical blessings are necessary to man’s survival and enjoyed by all.

However, there are special blessings reserved only for those who are “in Christ.” Ephesians

1:3 reads, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*” Spiritual blessings **are not** available to one who is not a New Testament Christian. One is not a New Testament Christian until he or she obeys what the New Testament requires to become a Christian. The New Testament requires faith in Jesus as the Son of God (John 8:24; Romans 10:17), repentance of sin (Acts 17:30), a verbal confession of faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10, and immersion in water which puts one “into Christ” where the blood of Jesus is spiritually applied to wash away sin (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:3-5; Galatians 3:26-27). One who completes these steps of obedience is added by the

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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: This is the last Sunday to get your picture taken for the new directory. Please see Gail before or after services at the front of the building if you have not yet had your picture taken. Please check your information on the table in the lobby and make any needed corrections. Thanks!

PANTRY ITEMS February 2023: 5—Canned Tomatoes; 12-Canned Patooties; 19—Any kind of Soups; 26—Pork-n-Beans.

February 2023; Anniversaries: None. **Birthdays:** 19-Maxine Pool; 25-Jan Pigg. 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.



VALENTINES DAY DINNER
Friday, Feb. 10th
6:30 PM
IN THE ANNEX

Everyone Is Invited to Attend

If you plan on attending, please sign the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board no later than tonight. Thanks!



THE GOSPEL 24/7
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Lord to His church (Acts 2:47). From that point on the faithful child of God enjoys every spiritual blessing that is “in Christ.” These spiritual blessings include the hope of eternal life in heaven (Titus 1:2), the privilege of prayer (Phil. 4:6), fellowship with God, Christ and the church (Acts 2:42; 1 John 1:3), and the assurance of God’s presence and help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16) just to name a few. Yes, “in Christ” the “grass” (blessings) are indeed lush and green. Why would we even want to stick our head through the fence to seek what is on the other side?

The devil wants us to desire the sin that is on his side of the fence. He makes it appear to be pleasurable, beneficial and even wise. It is the very same appeal the devil made to Eve and Adam, to Moses, and even to Jesus Christ Himself (Genesis 3; Hebrews

11:25; Matthew 4:1-11). The deceptive devil has been very successful with this approach. This is why inspiration warns in 1 John 2:15-17, “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

All spiritual blessings are on God’s side of the fence. On the other side of the fence in the devil’s pasture, there is spiritual death and eternal punishment in hell. Which side of the fence are you on?

Dear Christian, don’t imitate the cow who sticks his head through the fence looking for greener pastures. Don’t be deceived! Know that the grass is not really greener on the devil’s side of the fence!

BIBLE FOOLS By David Leonard

The Bible clearly teaches that it is a sin to refer to one as a fool in a contemptible manner (Mat. 5:32). The Bible, also, teaches that it is proper to refer to one who is not wise as foolish or a fool (1 Cor. 3:19-20). It would be bad enough to be called a fool by another human, but even more so by God! Just who is a fool according to God?

- The one who will not listen to advice—“fools despise wisdom and instruction” (Pro. 1:7).
- The one who pays no attention to warning—“A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident” (Pro. 14:16).
- One who persists in evil—“As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly” (Pro. 26:11).

- One who believes everything he hears—“The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going” (Pro. 14:15).
- The one who mocks at sin—“Fools make a mock at sin” (Pro. 14:9).
- The one who gets mad easily—“A fool’s wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame” (Pro. 12:16).
- Those who talk too much—“the lips of a fool will swallow up himself. The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness: and the end of his talk is mischievous madness. A fool also is full of words” (Ecc. 10:12-14).
- The one who drinks alcoholic beverages—“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging:

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and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Pro. 20:1).

- The one who says there is no God—"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Psa. 14:1).

- The one who does not

prepare for the judgment (Mat. 25). The one who is not prepared is like a man trying to sleep on a bed too short with cover too narrow (Isa. 28:20)

—St. Peter's church of Christ bulletin St. Peters, Mo.

WHAT ABOUT ABORTIONS? *By Jerry Joseph*

Think about the millions of babies that have been killed under the guise that . . . "It is legal, therefore right" – Just because something is legal does not mean that it somehow makes something morally right. The laws of man does not supersede, supplant or set-aside God's Word. The real question is – "Is it right with God?" The answer is NO!

"My doctor advises it" – A doctor, a nurse or anyone else in the medical field may encourage or recommend it, but we need to remember it is not a medical problem but an eternal, moral problem. The question is "Is it the advice of the Lord?" NO! Not for a moment

"Legal abortions are safer" – For whom? Are legal abortions safer for the unborn child? NO!

"It is a deformed child" - So, does that mean we need to get rid of all who have any imperfections. Just who would be living then? NO ONE!

"It is an embarrassment or an inconvenience for me" - The unborn baby is not an embarrassment but those who are killing innocent lives are an embarrassment to the very one who gave them life - GOD!

IT IS TIME THAT WE REMEMBER:

- Human life is a special gift from God (Acts 17:25).
- Human life is sacred (Genesis 1:26-27).
- God sees a person to be a human being even while still in the womb (Jer. 1:4-5; Psalm 139:13-16; Luke 1:44, Luke 2:12; Matt. 1:18-25).
- The taking of the life of innocent human beings, God speaks against and sanctions not (Prov. 6:16-19).
- God will sentence all evil doers at the last day no matter the excuses offered (2 Cor. 5:10).

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

"How Do We Know the Bible Is the Word of God?"

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP 6:00

"Four witnesses of Christ"

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

"A Study of the Book of Matthew"



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