



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 40

March 20, 2022

Number 12

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

- Larry Enoch
- 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

EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT OR ETERNAL LIFE? BY JONNIE HUTCHISON

There exists in eternity two destinies for all of humanity. Jesus spoke of them in His picture of the final judgment when He said of the lost “*These shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life*” (Matthew 25:46). As long as one lives, his or her eternal destiny can change. One who is lost in sin has it within his or her ability to receive the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life through the blood of Jesus (Romans 5:8-9; Revelation 1:5). It is the choices we make in this life that determines where each of us will exist in eternity. Dear reader, are you choosing “everlasting punishment” or “eternal life?”

Before Saul (Paul) became the apostle to the Gentiles, he made the choice to persecute the church. With letters from the Jewish authorities he traveled about arresting Christians and bringing them back to Jerusalem to stand trial and face death (Acts 9:1-2). Paul described his choices at that point in his life in the words, of Acts 22:4, “*I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and*

women,” Again he wrote, “*For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it*” (Galatians 1:13). Obviously at this point in Saul’s life his main goal was the destruction of the church of Christ. But this changed when he came face to face with the resurrected Lord who confronted him with his sin and directed Saul to one Ananias who told Saul how he could receive the forgiveness of his sins and the hope of eternal life (Acts 9:3-19).

Saul made the choice to believe in Christ, to repent of his sins and to be baptized into Christ (Acts 22:16). Both his eternal destiny and his ultimate goal in life changed. He no longer persecuted Christ and the church but advanced the cause of Christ at every opportunity even though he suffered much persecution for it (2 Corinthians 11:22-28). His ultimate focus and goal in life changed. He wrote in Philippians 3:13-14 “*Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but*

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Peggy Jarvis, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Larry Enoch, Mary and Jim Lowrie, Margorie and Hayes Grady, Jesse and Mary Vincent, and Bobby and Sue Hall.

Family and Friends: Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Roger Rhoades, Nancy Rhodes, Joel White, Nat and Rita Evans and Larry and Rose Wyatt and Bonnie Byerly.

Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine and an end to hostilities. We sorrow with so many who have lost loved ones in this conflict.

- **AND THE LORD ADDED:** Our hearts are made to rejoice at the baptisms of Peyton and London Smith this past week. We commend these two young ladies for their decision. We rejoice along with Krista and Shane and Debbie and Mike at this wonderful news.
- **PANTRY ITEMS March 2022:** 6—Tuna; 13—Peanut Butter; 20—Canned Tomatoes; 27—Table Salt. 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.
- **March 2022 Anniversaries:** 12— Roy & Marie Wyatt; 15—Bobby & Sue Hall. **Birthdays:** 9—Gail Hutchison; 14—Roy Wyatt; 20—James Pigg; 23—London Smith. 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.*

THOSE TO SERVE March 2022

Announcements: Chad

Preside at Lord’s Table AM: James & Mike

Preside at Lord’s Table PM: 6—Chad; 13—James;
20—Chad. 27—James

Opening Prayer AM

6—Jim; 13—Larry; 20—Jonnie; 27—Bobby

Closing Prayer AM

6—Roy; 13—David; 20—Perry; 27—Junior

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

Count Contribution: James & Mike

Usher: Jesse

LESSONS TODAY

Bible Study-10 AM
The Book of Acts

Worship

10:45 am— *Eli Sales*
will be our guest speaker

6 pm— *“Lessons From*
Children”

Wednesday Bible Class
A Study of 1 John

7:00 PM

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one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Paul was no longer bound for eternal punishment. He had made the choice to follow Jesus to eternal life in heaven.

Dear reader, you can make that same choice. You can choose heaven as your eternal destiny! Follow the example of Paul in

accepting the truth that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Repent of your sins (Acts 17:30-31). Confess your faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10). And, as Ananias told Saul, **“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”** (Acts 22:16).

Which will you choose—**everlasting punishment or eternal life?** It is your choice and you are making it even now. We plead with you—**choose eternal life!**

THE OLDEST CHURCH IN THE WORLD - By Mike Riley

Our Lord said, **“Upon this rock I will build my church”** (Matthew 16:18). Jesus promised to build a church — it was to be His church. In Mark 9:1, Christ said this kingdom (church) would come with power. After His resurrection, Jesus told his apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the power (Acts 1:4-8). The power came on the first Pentecost day following the resurrection of Christ and His church was established on that day, according to Acts 2. Jesus is both the founder and the foundation of the church one reads about in the New Testament. *“Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ”* (1 Corinthians 3:11). Any church established by any person other than Christ, in any place other than Jerusalem, at any time other than the first Pentecost after the Lord’s resurrection, is not the New Testament church. The church of Christ is over 2000 years old!

The church Jesus built exists in the world today. It exists anywhere people aban-

don human opinions about religion and submit entirely and completely to the teaching of the New Testament. You can identify Christ’s church in the world today! Read what the Bible says on the name we are to wear, the worship we are to offer God, the work of Christians, the organization and government of the church, and compare Scriptural teaching to what men are doing in the religious world. Where you find people who are “Christians only,” worshipping and working in exact conformity to the Word of God, without human creeds or catechisms, without additions, subtractions or substitutions to the teachings taught in the Scripture, you will have found the Lord’s church. It is in the world today!

We encourage all people to come back to the Bible, back to Christ, back to His teachings as revealed in the New Testament, and back to Christ’s church (Revelation 22:17).

—[The Oldest Church in the World - The Preacher's Files \(gewatkins.net\)](http://www.gewatkins.net)

DO NOT LET TIME GET AWAY By Jonnie Hutchison

Harold G. Taylor writes, “Time is short. We live within the framework of clocks and calendars; seconds and minutes; days and weeks; months and years. The first twenty years are the longest. The rest of life is a fast runaway train. If life is kind, we now

live 25,550 days in the halls of the living. If you are forty, you have 10,950 days left; if sixty-five, the count goes down to 1,825; if you are seventy-five, you are already on borrowed time. When you are but

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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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sixteen, you are in the springtime of youth; when sixty, it's already late autumn."

The book of Psalms tells me that I must "number my days" (Psalm 90:12). Barring fatal accidents, disease and the like, how many days do you have left on this earth? What are you doing with the limited time you have left? Time is so precious that the Bible declares that we each should be "redeeming the time because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). To "redeem" the time is to use it correctly for time, once it is used, is gone forever. Life consists of the passing of time and life is pictured in the Bible as a vapor of steam that appears for "a little while and then vanishes away" (James 4:13-14). None of us are assured of another day of life. Time for any of us could end at any moment. As you read these words someone somewhere is experiencing death. It could be me or it could be you. With the obvious brevity of life so vividly before us, how can anyone of us continue to indulge himself or herself in a wasteful useless life controlled by sin and the devil? To live one's life in accord with the adage "eat, drink and be merry, for



tomorrow we die" is not only an empty life but foolish as well. The only life that is truly profitable and will bring genuine and lasting happiness and hope

beyond the grave is the life of a Christian. The person who makes that proper preparation for the day of his or her death may face death with confidence. The next great event in the existence of the dead is the judgment. "but as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). One who has chosen to live as a faithful Christian may face both death and the judgment with boldness. "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17-18).

Yes, time is short. The opportunities for eternal preparation are quickly passing us by. Listen to this, "...Behold, **NOW is the accepted TIME; behold NOW is the day of salvation**" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Dear reader, don't let time get away from you! Make preparation for the day of your death NOW while there is still time!

-More articles like this are available on our website at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>



THE GOSPEL 24/7

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