



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

May 24, 2026

Number 19

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
270-293-7027
- James Pigg
270-293-2319

Deacons

- Bobby Hall

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
270-978-7569

Location

- Green Plain
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A LACK OF RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY

By Jonnie Hutchison

The following news headlines have appeared in newspapers and other media recently: "Protests Show Lack of Respect Toward Police." "Lack of Respect Causing Rise in Police Shootings." "Lack of Respect Plagues Capital Traffic Police." "The Effects of a Lack of Respect in the Workplace." On and on the headlines go decrying (and sometimes encouraging) the lack of respect for authority which seems to be afflicting more and more people.

Why is there a growing lack of respect for authority? There are several contributing factors from a spiritual point of view.

Materialism. Even with their current economic woes Americans are the richest people in the world. **Success** has come to be viewed by how big a house one lives in, how luxurious is the car one drives, and how much money one has in the bank. The "haves" - in their greediness - show little respect for the "have not's" and the "have not's" return that disrespect motivated by envy and jealousy. Our society has become a welfare state in which people have developed the mindset that

they are owed the best life has to offer without any effort or work on their part. This creates an atmosphere of disrespect for authority. Until man chooses the spiritual over the material disrespect will continue to impact his thinking to his detriment.

The Widespread Acceptance of the Teaching of Evolution. If man is merely the product of organic evolution then why should he show respect to his fellow man? Do "animals" respect one another? When people view themselves as nothing more than a link in the evolutionary chain they will not be respectful of the sanctity of human life nor of the authority of others. Disrespect is the "survival of the fittest" epitomized. "I" come first! It's all about "me" and what "I" want! "My" needs, "my" wants and the fulfillment of "my" immediate desires come first. The antidote to all of that is to accept that humans are the product of the Creative act of a loving God who made us in His image (Genesis 1:27; 9:6).

Rejection of God and the

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members: Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Dave & Ann Thompson (Hickory Woods), Wanda Barrett (Charter Health Care), Roy and Marie Wyat, and Dianna Travis. Joan Lathrop is in Spring Creek Rehab.

Family and Friends: Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Kim Burrows, Lucetria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Patrice Wyatt, Jackie Herndon, Peyton Mays, Patricia Dowdy, Darren Mays, Adam Kellam, Dan Sikes, Ariana Yount, and Gina Hutchison.

OUR SYMPATH AND LOVE is extended to the family of our sister Joan Lathrop who passed from this life this past week. We are thankful for Joan and the good influence she exerted in her life. We will all miss her. Please pray for Russell and all the family at this time of loss. We sorrow, but not as those who have no hope (1 Thess. 4:13).

PANTRY ITEMS May 2026: 3-Corn; 10-Green Beans; 17-Spinach; 24-Beets. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

May 2026; **BIRTHDAYS:** 27-Ann Thompson; 29-Mary Vincent. Congratulations!

Enroll in a FREE Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and complete mailing address to Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD, Hazel, KY 42049. You may also enroll online at our website: <https://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.

Our School of Biblical Studies will continue tomorrow evening, May 25th at 7:00 pm. Larry Powers will continue our study on the book of Revelation. This will be our last class until this fall. Thanks to all who attended this good study and thanks to Dan Sikes and Larry Powers for their instruction.

THOSE TO SERVE May 2026

Announcements: C had

Lord's Table AM: Bobby & Perry

Lord's Table PM3-Bobby; 10-Perry; 17-Bobby;
24-Perry

Opening Prayer AM; J3-James; 10-Jonnie; 17-Jimmy;
24-Mike

Closing Prayer AM 3-Russell; 10-Don; 17-Jesse;
24-Roy

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

Count Contribution: Bobby & Perry

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HOME BIBLE STUDY
"Back to the Bible"
To increase your
knowledge of
God's Word.**

Here is how it works.
We will set a time convenient for
you to either come into your
home or come to our building
where we will sit down with open
Bible's and study God's Word in
an informal setting.
Call 270-978-7569 or email
greenplaincoc@gmail.com
2 Timothy 2:15

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Bible. When one rejects the existence of God he rejects the authority which is God's. When one rejects the Bible as the Word of God he rejects the written standard of divine authority. A rejection of divine authority, the highest authority that exists, results in a disrespect for lesser forms of authority. The divine standard of God's Word teaches us to respect and be subject to the authority of civil government which has been ordained by God (Romans 13:1). Children are to honor or re-

spect the authority of their parents by being obedient to them (Ephesians 6:1-2). Any service we render to those who possess authority over us should be given with the greatest attitude of respect for that authority fulfilling that service as to Christ, not to men (Ephesians 6:5-8).

While those in the world may show their disrespect for authority the faithful Christian will make sure that he/she respects the primary authority of God and the delegated authority of God to men.

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES *By Robert Lupo*

If you have been paying attention to the news over the last few years, you have probably heard a good amount of talk about the "end times prophecies." With the situation that has been happening in the middle east, especially in Gaza, many in the media have been pointing to verses ripped out of context in order to support their idea of how false doctrines like "the Rapture" are about to come to pass. And, almost three years later, none of these things have happened.

In [Deuteronomy 18:22](#), the Bible tells us how to identify false prophets. The Lord said, "When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." Based on this passage alone, we can know that these predictions that come around every time something happens in Israel are false.

One of the reasons groups continue to fall for these erroneous claims is a misunderstanding of Scripture that, if true, would completely compromise the nature of God. Their doctrine teaches that the land promise given in [Genesis 15:18-21](#) has not yet been fulfilled. They believe that Israel never ex-

tended south, from the river of Egypt nor north to the River Euphrates. But God says just the opposite. In [Joshua 21:45](#), the Bible declares, "Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass." In chapter 1, verse 4, we can see that this is in reference to the same land promise that was given in Genesis 15.

Now, this article is far too short to give a proper debunking of this false doctrine. However, there is a lesson we can learn by understanding this single point concerning the truth of the Land Promise: God keeps His promises.

If the promise made to Israel did not come to pass, then God is a liar. You cannot reconcile God's statement in Joshua with the belief that the Land Promise was not fulfilled. And, if you cannot trust God's promise to Israel, then you can't trust any of God's promises.

Thankfully, that is not the God we serve. We serve a God that fulfilled the promise He made to Abraham and Joshua just as He said He would. He is a God who

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cannot lie (cf. [Tit. 1:2](#); [Heb. 6:18](#); [Num. 23:19](#)). And if God cannot lie, then I know that, as a Christian, my sins are forgiven ([Acts 2:38](#)), I am going to heaven ([Phil. 3:20](#)), and God will never forsake me ([Heb. 13:5](#)). Any doctrine that teaches otherwise is a lie from Satan.

Let's praise the Lord who keeps all of His promises. —[God Keeps His Promises | Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ](#)

Characteristics of a Shepherd

As the Apostle Paul encouraged the Ephesian elders, he said, "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28) The term "shepherd" in this verse carries with it special meaning for special servants in the Lord's church. The metaphor of the shepherd and sheep is used throughout the bible, Jesus used it in referring to Himself as the "Good Shepherd" (John 10:11, 14), and here Paul uses the same to describe the work of church leaders. We need only to consider the duties of a shepherd to understand the vital role the overseer (bishop, elder) serves in the local congregation of the Lord's church.

Shepherds Guide the Flock. Without leadership, the flock will aimlessly wander. Good elders will be goal-oriented, moving the church forward. (Philippians 3:12-14) • **Shepherds Feed the Flock.** The shepherd makes sure that the sheep always are in good pastures with plenty of nourishment. Elders make sure that the church is continually fed with the spiritual nourishment of God's word. (1 Timothy 4:6) **Shepherds Watch the Flock.** The shepherd acutely is aware of activity in the flock, aware of sickness or conflict. Overseers of the church know what's going on within their congregation. (Hebrews 13:17; James 5:14-15) **Shepherds Protect the Flock.** The shepherd protected the flock from robbers and predators. Elders are fully aware of an evil world and that the adversary is constantly on the prowl, waiting to devour the weak. (1 Peter 5:8) • **Shepherds Calm the Flock.** A sudden noise or approaching storm could scatter the flock. The shepherd would comfort the flock during times of distress. Elders will quickly, calmly, and discreetly deal with trouble that's brewing in the church. (Titus 1:10-16) **Shepherds Seek the Lost.** Every single sheep was important to the shepherd. He would leave the flock to find the lost sheep. Overseers know the flock and recognize when one is missing, giving special attention to restoring the wanderer. (Galatians 6:1; James 5:19) Good shepherds need good followers. The shepherd who has a flock of wandering, disobedient sheep will be miserable. "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you." (Hebrews 13:17) Each and every member of the church has the responsibility to follow the shepherds as they lead the church toward that eternal pastureland.

— Jay Launius – 2026 Maud Church of Christ Maud, Texas

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!



SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE
CLASS 10:00 AM
A Study of Luke

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
"Jesus Calms the Storms?"
Mark 4:35-41

SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM
To Be Announced

Wednesday 7:00 PM
A Study of 2 Kings

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

1. **Hear** the gospel -Romans 10:17.
2. **Accept the Deity of Jesus Christ**—John 8:24.
3. **Repent** of sin—Acts 17:30.
4. **Confess** faith in Christ—Acts 8:36-38; Rom 10:9-10
5. **Be immersed in water**—Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27.