



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 40

May 20 2022

Number 22

## 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

## A BACKWARDS PEOPLE /By Todd Houston

*Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*” Isaiah 5:20

Some atheists pity us for believing ancient myths and lacking the philosophical “enlightenment” they possess. They make statements to the effect that Christians think critically and logically except when it comes to religion. This group believes us mostly harmless but pitifully ignorant.

Others express rage at our faith and practice. One atheist argued that people should not be allowed to attend religious gatherings before the age of eighteen. Others argue it should be illegal to practice religion altogether. Though people have committed many evils in the name of religion (e.g. the Crusades, Inquisition, 9/11, justifying slavery, et. al.), by lumping all believers together, atheists have thrown out the proverbial baby (Christianity) with the bath water (false religion). Their adherents are growing in numbers and fer-

vor. As I surveyed the comments about our faith in Christ, the general sentiment is that we are a bunch of backwards thinking bumpkins.

Satan leverages these criticisms and pressures to discourage us from doing God’s bidding. No one likes to be criticized for their convictions, but we must not allow such to derail our efforts in His kingdom. Though these things pose other potential dangers, we will consider two that seem especially destructive. One of these will render us inactive while the other will render us ineffective. We must avoid both.

First, hearing these harsh criticisms can cause timidity and a sense of futility. It can be hard to speak out when we expect to be excoriated or dismissed for speaking the truth. When people begin with an adversarial posture, it may seem futile to speak in His name. Moses was reluctant to go into Egypt because he felt inadequate to the task and was certain the people would not listen. God had to assure him that

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** ***Green Plain members:*** Peggy Jarvis, Marie and Roy Wyatt, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Larry Enoch, Mary and Jim Lowrie, Margorie and Hayes Grady, Jesse Vincent has spent several days in the hospital at Vanderbilt, Mary Vincent, and Wanda Barrett who is recovering from her heart procedure.

***Family and Friends:*** Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Roger Rhoades, Joel White, Nat and Rita Evans, Larry and Rose Wyatt, Bonnie Byerly, Kenny Arrington, Jack and Michel Phillip. Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine. Remember those this congregation is supporting in India.

**PANTRY ITEMS May 2022:** 1—Pork-n-Beans; 8—Toothbrush; 15—Pickles 22—Mixed Vegetables; 29— Canned Carrots. 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.

**May 2022 Birthdays:** 19—Peyton Smith; 27—Ann Thompson; 29—Mary Vincent;

***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](mailto:greenplaincoc@gmail.com). You may also enroll on our website.: [greenplainchurchofchrist.org](http://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.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Our fall gospel meeting is scheduled for September 11-15, 2022 with Mike Kiser. The Fall Session of the School of Biblical Studies will begin on Monday, September 19th and continue for eight consecutive Monday’s. 7—9 pm..

### THOSE TO SERVE MAY 2022

Announcements—Mike Ernstberger  
 Preside at Lord’s Table AM—Roy & Junior  
 Lord’s Table PM: 5/1-Roy; 5/8-Junior 5/15-Roy;  
 5/22-Junior; 5/29-Roy  
 Opening Prayer AM: 5/1-Jonnie; 5/8-Bobby;  
 5/15-James; 5/22-Jim; 5/29-Mike  
 Closing Prayer AM: 5/1-Perry; 5/9-Chad;  
 5/15-Dave; 5/22-Jesse; 5/29-Larry  
 Song Leaders: AM Perry; PM Chad; Wed Larry  
 Usher: Jesse  
 Count Contribution: Roy & Junior

### *LESSONS TODAY*

Bible Study-10 AM  
*The Book of Acts*

### Worship

10:45 am— “The Blessing of Fazing Trials” -  
*Ron Hutchison*  
 6 pm— Singing

Wednesday Bible Class  
*A Study of Jude*

7:00 PM

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He would provide the message, the means to speak the message, and the confirmation of the message (Exodus 3:10-14; 4:1, 10-17). Jeremiah was likewise hesitant to embrace the call because of his youth (Jeremiah 1:6). As with Moses, God had to embolden Jeremiah to speak the truth (Jeremiah 1:7-10). Paul told Timothy not to be ashamed of the testimony of Christ and reassured him that God has not given His people a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7-8). As Jesus said, we ought to fear falling out with God more than falling out with humanity (Matthew 10:26-33).

The second major hindrance produced by these criticisms can push us to the opposite extreme. Where some get frightened by critics, others respond in

anger towards them. It is easy to become angry when people speak ill of us for doing what we know to be right and just and true. However, we must not lash out in this anger. As Paul stated in Colossians 4:5-6, we must walk with wisdom towards them and be in control of our speech. We must confidently proclaim the truth, but we must do so in love (Ephesians 4:15). We must give a defense of our hope, but we must do so with meekness and fear (1 Peter 3:15). This is a delicate balance when being slandered, but we cannot allow any corrupting (lit. corrosive) speech to come from our mouths, but our every word must aim at being constructive (Ephesians 4:29).

— [A Backwards People](#) — [Elizabethton Church of Christ \(elizabethtoncoc.org\)](#)

### **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION *By Raymond Sieg***

In 2 Chronicles 7:12-14 the following words are recorded: "And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

To set the stage for these passages, Solomon had dedicated the temple he built. At the dedication, Solomon prayed

a very beautiful prayer (2 Chronicles 6:12-42). As he prayed, Solomon demonstrated deep concern for the future of his people. He was aware that his people might fall into sin and wander away from God. He showed how much he cared for his people by asking God to forgive them when they repented and returned to Him. God assured Solomon that He would forgive and bless the Israelites if they would humble themselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from their wicked ways.

As we further analyze Solomon's prayer we see that he also mentioned something else. He touched on some things that could cause his people to re-

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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!

**TRUTH.FM**  
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turn to God, including drought, various types of pestilence, war, and captivity. Although these things are unpleasant, Solomon knew that they could have a positive impact upon his people by causing them to return to the Lord.

With these matters before us, let us consider something that could very well affect the church's growth. As you know, for some time we have been facing economic uncertainty, we have had to deal with threats to our national security, we have been plagued by natural disasters in different parts of the country, and we have seen crimes being committed at an alarming rate. These things are not pleasant by any means. Howev-

er, these things just might lead some people in our community to search for something that provides stability in our unstable world. Such people may reflect upon and examine their relationships with God, providing us with opportunities for evangelism.

As we think about reaching others with the Gospel during difficult times, let us maintain the spirit of optimism of our Savior who said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35).

—[Church of Christ Articles From the Bulletin | Church of Christ of Greater Daytona | Daytona Beach, FL - Church of Christ of Greater Daytona](#)



## THE GOSPEL 24/7 **GBNTV.ORG**

*"Our goal is to help those seeking the truth among distorted Biblical teachings. We want to reach every soul with the truth of the Gospel and then to support them on their path to salvation."*

**Watch the live broadcast or Stream Videos on a variety of Bible subjects.**