



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 42

June 2, 2024

Number 21

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;
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

REPENTANCE *By Hugh Fulford*

The apostle Peter wrote: “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not desiring that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (II Peter 3:9). From this text it is obvious that God loves all mankind and desires their salvation. But it also shows that repentance of sins is a divine requirement for being saved. In this week's essay let's think about repentance.

The prophets in the Old Testament often proclaimed to Israel and Judah a message of repentance, reformation, and restoration to God's order of things (Cf. Jeremiah 6:16; Ezekiel 14:6; Ezekiel 18:30; Malachi 3:7, et.al.). At the opening of the New Testament, both John the Baptist and Christ preached to the people of Israel, saying to them, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 3:2; Matthew 4:17). Theirs was a message for Israel to turn from their sins and prepare themselves

for the setting up of the long promised kingdom of God, the church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Daniel 2:44; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 16:18-19; Colossians 1:13).

But what exactly is repentance? “Repentance” is from a Greek word that literally means “to change the mind.” Jesus spoke a parable about a father who commanded his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first one defiantly said he would not do so, but later regretted his refusal, changed his mind (repented), and went and worked in the vineyard. The younger son said he would go and work in the vineyard but did not do so. The son who actually did his father's will was not the one who said he would go work in the vineyard but did not do so, but the who had remorse for at first refusing to do as his father commanded, but later changed his mind (repented), and complied with his father's will (Matthew 21:28-32).

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members: Peggy Jarvis , Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim and Mary Lowrie. Marie Wyatt (Spring Creek), Roy Wyatt, and Joan Lathrop.

Family and Friends: Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Tommy Boggess, Kim Burrows, Nat Evans, Lucetria Hutchison,, Ted Clark. Rose Wyatt (Spring Creek) and Tonya Morris.

PANTRY ITEMS June 2024: 2—Peanut Butter; 9-zJelly; 16-Canned Chicken; 23-Canned Tuna; 30-Beef Stew. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

JUNE 2024; Anniversaries: 17-Jan & James Pigg; 21-Peggy & Perry Jarvis; 25-Mary & Jim Lowrie **Birthdays:** 15-Don Spiceland.

GUEST SPEAKER: On Sunday evening June 30th, brother Joey Treat, who works with the Gospel Broadcasting Network will be with us to update us on that good work.

WEBPAGE: The webpage for the church continues to receive visits from all over the world. If you haven't visited lately, please take a few minutes to do so. The webpage URL is <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.

HOME BIBLE STUDY; Request a **FREE** home Bible study—“*Back to the Bible*” for anyone who is interested in gaining more knowledge of the Bible. Contact us to set up a time for our teachers to come into your home or meet at our building to begin this study.

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. The first lesson will be sent ASAP with a SASE for you to return for grading. This is a great way to increase your Bible knowledge.

THOSE TO SERVE JUNE 2024

announcements: Mike Ernstberger

Lord's Table AM: James Pigg & Chad Canter

Lord's Table PM: 2-Chad; 9-James; 16-Chad;
23-James; 30-Chad

Opening Prayer AM: 2-Jonnie; 0-Perry;
16-Bobby; 23-Jim L.; 30-Russell

Closing Prayer AM: 2-Roy; 9-Dave;
16-Jesse; 23-Mike; 30-Brent M.

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

Count Contribution: James & Chad

Where Will You Be Tomorrow?

Have you made plans for tomorrow? Are you absolutely certain your tomorrow will go exactly as you have planned? The truth is that one can be certain about tomorrow (James 4:14). We do not know what will happen tomorrow. However, if one is spiritually prepared today, one does not need to worry about what will happen tomorrow (Matt. 6:34). Have you made that preparation? If you have not or are not sure, may we help? - Jonnie

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The apostle Paul stated, “For godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation, not to be regretted, but the sorrow of the world produces death” (II Corinthians 7:10). We all need to be sorrowful for our sins, but repentance is more than mere emotional contrition. Godly sorrow for our sins produces repentance (a change of mind), leading to a change in the direction of our lives.

Twice in one brief incident, Jesus said, “I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5). Following His resurrection and just before His ascension back to heaven, Jesus met with His apostles for the last time and said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem” (Luke 24:46-47). This is Luke's account of the Great Commission and it shows when and where the execution of that commission was to commence. Ten days after Christ's ascension, on the day of Pentecost, the apostles began to carry out that commission. To those who inquired what they should do Peter said, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38).

In his second recorded sermon in Jerusalem, Peter once again commanded people to “repent therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing can come from the presence of the

Lord” (Acts 3:19). (The thoughtful and careful reader will be able to see a direct parallel in the language of Acts 2:38 and Acts 3:19).

To the idolatrous people of Athens the apostle Paul said, “And these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30). Not only idolaters, but all other sinners need to be careful about thinking that God will overlook their ignorance; instead, they need to come to a knowledge of the truth, repent, and be baptized for the remission of their sins. This is God's desire for all people (I Timothy 2:3-4).

There are many incentives for a person to repent. Paul wrote: “Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” (Romans 2:4). As previously noted, godly sorrow “produces repentance to salvation” (II Corinthians 2:10).

The Bible is clear about what follows repentance. There must be an intense desire to comply with all that the Lord has commanded. Repentance is not like cleaning out our closet, discarding those items we no longer like or want, but holding on to those we do. The true penitent does not hold on to his favorite or pet sins, but turns from them all! The person who truly repents stops lying, fornicating, getting drunk, stealing, hating, using drugs, lusting, committing adultery, using bad language, following a corrupted religion (including any corrupted form of Christianity) forsaking the assembly, being lukewarm, and everything else that is wrong

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and sinful.

Following repentance, the alien sinner is to be baptized for the remission of his sins and to walk in newness of life (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:1-6). When a Christian finds himself guilty of sin he is to "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven" (Acts 8:22). When a child of God is sincerely seeking to do God's will, when his intent and purpose is to walk in the light, when he is willing to confess his sins and turn from them (repent), he has the blessed assurance that the blood of Christ keeps him cleansed of sin and he continues to have fellowship with God the Father, with Christ the Son, and with his brothers and sisters in the Lord (I John 1:6-10).

No wonder there is "more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance"! (Luke 15:7). No wonder God has commanded all men everywhere to repent! (Acts 17:30). No wonder that the servant of the Lord is to be gentle and patient toward all, "in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will give them repentance to the acknowledgment of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will" (II Timothy 2:24-26).

Have you repented? Have I? Fully? Genuinely? Have we come to our senses and escaped the snare of the devil?

—From "Hugh's Views"

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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!

Bible Study Opportunities

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10:00 AM
Study of Matthew

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP 10:45
"He Left Us An Example"

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP 6 pm
"I Am the Light"

Wednesday 7:00 pm
A Study of Worship



A Bi-Weekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts