



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 42

August 4, 2024

Number 29

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

A TALE THAT IS TOLD

Looking back upon the lives of God's "heroes" in Hebrews 11 will make a person think of his own life. "Have I accomplished anything worthwhile?" That question has been reflected in the literature of man for centuries. That death is the appointment all must anticipate at some time is an obvious truth. We cannot escape it. But how should we face that truth?

Paul faced death with expectation, neither fearful nor seeking it [see Philippians 1:20-24]. Some have taken their own life for various reasons, but that is not a real solution. It was Moses himself who wrote the following words: "All our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Psalms 90:9-10.

We have been to the cemetery too often lately, haven't we. Loved ones are gone and they will be missed. Many of you who read these words have more years

behind you than ahead of you. May I make a suggestion? Take an hour or two and go through your local cemetery. Do so without the association of a funeral. Look at the names, the dates, the families and the epitaphs.

If that seems a bit morbid, think again. Some occasions on which we visit the local cemetery are sad, but they can be thought provoking.

Death awaits us all. It makes no difference how rich or powerful a person may be, death awaits us all unless the Lord returns first. Job said death is "the house appointed for all living," Job 30:23.

Look at all the famous statesmen, heroes, athletes and leaders of the past. Just as we read in the Bible, "...and he died" are the words that describe the end of each and all of them. Even the "miracle" of modern medicine has its limits. Since that is true, rational people will prepare for that time. I'm not talking about pre-arranged funerals, but preparing our soul for eternity, for that's where we are headed.

(Continued on page 3)

NEWS AND NOTES

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

Family and Friends: Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Kim Burrows, Nat Evans, Lucetria Hutchison, Ted Clark. Larry and Rose Wyatt, Tonya Morris, Gina Hutchison, and Donald Cook.

PANTRY ITEMS August 2024: 4-Peanut Butter; 11-Jelly; 18- Apple Sauce; 25-Peaches. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

August 2024; Anniversaries: 13-Gail and Jonnie Hutchison **Birthdays:** 4-Tresa Enoch; 10-unior Morris; 21-Jackie Spiceland.

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. This is a great way to increase your Bible knowledge.

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;....”
2 Cor 5:10-11. Have you made preparation for YOUR appearance before the judgment seat of Christ? YOU will be there along with every other person who has ever lived. Make YOUR preparation now before it’s too late!

THOSE TO SERVE August 2024

announcements: Chad Camter

Lord’s Table AM: Roy W. & Junior M.

Lord’s Table PM: 4-Roy 11-Junior; 18-Roy; 25-Junior

Opening Prayer AM: 4-Jonnie; 11-Bobby; 18-James; 25-Mike

Closing Prayer AM: 4-Russell; 11-Dave; 18-Jesse; 25-Chad..

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

Count Contribution: Roy & Junior

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREEN PLAIN

**Fall Gospel a Meeting with
John Sales Sept. 8-12.**

**Fall Session of the School
of Biblical Studies
Sept 16-Nov 4, 2024**

(Continued from page 1)

We will leave it all behind. In a Massachusetts cemetery lies the body of a man who lived 103 years and was the patriarch of his county, ruling the most acreage and producing the most wealth. He died in 1912, leaving it all to his sons, who in turn lost it all due to bad business decisions. None of them were able to stash any of their wealth in their burial clothes. All their wealth was left behind. Solomon, wealthy as he was, said: "As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand." Ecclesiastes 5:15.

No, our wealth, our fishing boat, our business, our bank account, our golf clubs—all will be left behind.

The world will keep going. It's easy to become obsessed with our own importance, thinking we are necessary to the survival of civilization. How can my family, my business, etc., survive without me? But they can, and they will.

I don't wish to belittle the significance of anyone's life, but the world has been able to get along without Elvis, Lincoln, Babe Ruth, Roosevelt, Henry VIII and Julius Caesar. And it will have to learn to get along without us, too.

Some die "before their time" You need

not go to a cemetery to learn that no one has been given a guarantee of any number of years. Several years ago I viewed the graves of more than fifty small children who died as a result of an influenza plague in 1895. Their gravestones reflected the grief of family and friends. The inscriptions indicated the shock felt by their community. No one had wanted those precious children to die at such a young age, but those things happen. Is that not reason enough for me to think more personally about the fragile, temporary nature of life on this earth? An hour or two in your local cemetery might help you and me think about life and its brevity.

Many die daily without hope. While those children were safe, there were thousands in that lonely graveyard who were not safe, having died, as the Holy Spirit declared: "...having no hope, and without God in the world," Ephesians 2:12.

Isn't it sobering to consider that thousands die in sin every day without obeying the gospel of Christ, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9. If that won't sober your thoughts, your heart needs some work.

How about you, friend? Why not take a walk through a cemetery some time. It will make you think. And it may change your life.

—Carl B. Garner

ONE ARK AND ONE CHURCH

In 1 Peter 3:20-21, the apostle Peter writes, "...which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." Peter again records in 2 Peter 2:5, "...and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteous-

ness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly." In both of these passages, Peter instructs us that Noah was a preacher of righteousness, who labored and built "the ark" to save the world from the universal flood, of which only eight people were saved. What are some lessons that we can glean from the days of Noah relative to the one ark and the one church?

1. **Noah built one ark** (Genesis 6:14; 7:1). It is very significant to remember that Noah did not build "arks" to help in saving people from

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

the flood! He built only **ONE!** Jesus Christ built one church (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:4). Jesus did not establish "churches" to redeem sinful man! Denominationalism is condemned by the Bible (1 Corinthians 1:10). There was only **one ark** and there is only **one church!**

2. **There was only one way into the ark** (Genesis 6:16). The door was made for an entrance into the place of safety. There is only one way to enter into the church (John 3:3-5; Galatians 3:26-27). One cannot enter into the place of safety today without first finding the door of the Savior and obeying His commands. Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture" (John 10:9).

3. **There was only one source of light in the ark** -- a window (Genesis 6:16). Without the window, there would have been no light. All would be dark. There is only one source of light for the church -- the gospel of light (1 Corinthians 2:1-10). Without the gospel, all would be dark and hopeless (Rom. 1:16; Heb. 4:12).

4. **There was only one family presented in the ark** (1 Peter 3:20). Noah's family was the only family that obeyed the conditions that gave them safety from the universal flood! Thus, there was only one family in the ark. There is only one family in the church. It is called the "house of God" (1 Timothy 3:14-15). Those who have obeyed the conditions (commands) are members of the one family, the church of the Lord!

5. **Every need was supplied in the ark** (Genesis 7:23-24). The greatest need of all was life itself. Noah and his family were able to flee the flood and to put their feet upon the earth after a period of time (Genesis 8:6-22). Every spiritual need for man is located in the church (Ephesians 1:3). Paul states, "When Christ who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" (Colossians 3:4). Peter reminds us that God has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).

6. **There was only one danger relative to the ark.** Those that missed the ark died in the flood. They died because of their rebellion toward God. It was their sins that kept them from being saved from the curse of the flood (Isaiah 59:1-2). There is a great and grievous danger facing the present world today. It is the Judgment Day in the which those who are not in the ark of safety, the church, will receive the sentence, "Depart, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). Why receive such a punishment! Obey Christ and enter the church -- the ark of safety! - *By Harold Bingham*

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
"Lessons From A Golden Calf"

SUNDAY PM WORSIP 6 pm
"The Danger of Making Assumptions"

Wednesday 7:00 pm
Study of Ecclesiastes



A Bi-Weekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts