



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 28

January 12, 2010

Number 2

## ELDERS

John Brinkley  
Rex Enoch  
Hayes Grady  
Billy Joe Stubblefield  
Bobby Ward

## DEACONS

Robert Barrett  
Larry Enoch  
Rob Enoch  
Bobby Hall  
Max Henry  
Robert Meredith  
Jesse Vincent  
Eddie Ward

## PREACHER

Robert Meredith  
Telephone:  
(270) 492-8206

## IN CHRIST ONE HAS:

**LIGHT**  
Jno. 12:46

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**REDEMPTION - FORGIVENESS**  
Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:13-14

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**SALVATION**  
2 Tim. 2:10; Acts 4:12

**PRAYERS HEARD**  
1 Pet. 3:12

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**ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**  
Eph. 1:3

\*\*\*\*\*

**ETERNAL LIFE**  
1 Jno. 5:11

**HOW DOES ONE GET INTO CHRIST?**  
Rom. 6:3-4; Gal. 3:26-27

## Will the Lord Know His Church?

Gary Colley

An article appeared in a newspaper concerning people moving into the city who were “shopping for a church.” Their choice was according to certain specifications which were of their own personal likes and dislikes, not those which harmonize with the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Matthew 6:33). Gene Shelburne reportedly wrote in the infamous “Image” magazine about how wrong he thought it was to seek to teach people out of denominationalism. He wrote, “How dreadful! How absolutely dreadful! I can’t imagine spending my whole life’s ministry just stealing sheep. Surely we have something more important to do than convincing our religious neighbors that they’re wrong!”

It never seems to dawn on some that the Lord meant what He said through Paul and other inspired apostles, that those who want to be saved must “*study to show themselves approved unto God*” (2 Timothy 2:15). Thinking on this matter might cause one to wonder, when the Lord re-

turns to take His people Home, do you suppose He will know which people are His and which are not?

### **“Choose the Church of Your Choice” (?)**

Some have taught for years, and would leave us to believe by their teaching, that the Lord will not know or care which church is His when He comes to crown His own! These unashamedly claim that “there is nothing in a name,” that anything they want and like is perfectly fine with them and, therefore, must be with the Lord, and that what His Word says has little to do with the kind of church they should choose. They seemingly pay no attention to His authority, make their own creeds, and seek only to please themselves, their fellow man, or maybe “the baby-boomers” in religious matters.

### **Man-Made Religions (?)**

Denominational churches say “one is as good as another,” choose their own names, have their own organizational structure, teach their own plan of salvation, and worship in a manner that feels right to them. When the Lord returns, do you suppose for a moment that He will be fooled and not know the difference between man’s ways and God’s ways, or His church and one made by men? Remember the words of Jehovah: “*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith Jehovah*” (Isaiah 55:8-9). And, Jesus said, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by Me*” (John 14:6).

### **Identity by Divine Marks**

Jesus has clearly stated that all authority has been given by the Father unto Him, even over the church that bears His name (Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 1:22-23). His name is to designate and separate His people from all others (Acts 11:26; Romans 16:16; Acts 4:12; 1 Peter 4:16). He has also written by inspiration that “*every plant [teaching, GC], which My heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up*” (Matthew 15:13). He built His church just as He promised He would

(Matthew 16:18; Mark 9:1; Acts 2). He purchased it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). Christ gave the organizational structure of His church, even the qualifications of the men to serve (Ephesians 4:11; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1). He taught that all who were His “*must worship Him[God, GC] in spirit and in truth*” or their worship would be in vain (John 4:24; Matthew 15:9). Jesus and His apostles condemned division (John 17:20-21; 1 Corinthians 1:10). Paul’s pointed questions still ring in the ears of every sober-thinking Bible student: “*Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized into the name of Paul?*” (1 Corinthians 1:13).

### **Correct Identity Required**

Just as the father of Luke 15 recognized his prodigal son “*when he was yet a great way off,*” or as a husband can identify his wife though she be in the midst of hundreds of other women, so the Lord will know His children and His bride, which is the “*body, the church*” (Colossians 1:18)! He will have no problem at all! Jesus said in a very pointed way, “*Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven*” (Matthew 7:21).

### **The Lord Knows the Difference!**

Paul assures us that the Lord will be able to identify His church immediately! “*Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity*” (2 Timothy 3:19).

### **What About You?**

We hope that you will “*gladly receive His word*” today by faith, repentance, confession, and baptism, which is obedience to the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9), so that the Lord may add you today to His church (Acts 2:41, 47). It is a “*terror*” to be found anywhere else when the Lord comes for His church (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:10-11).

**Will the Lord know you as a part of  
His church when He returns?**

**From the *Encyclopedia Americana*:  
—CHURCH OF CHRIST—**

“Though these churches are free and independent of any general hierarchy, each local congregation having elders to oversee its affairs and deacons to assist them, yet they are united in a common faith and voluntarily cooperate in sending missionaries and in doing benevolent work under the direction of local churches.

Membership depends only on (1) faith in and confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God; (2) repentance from sin; (3) baptism by immersion. Their worship consists of the five acts specifically authorized by the New Testament: (1) reading and preaching the Bible; (2) observing the Lord’s Supper as a memorial; (3) contributing money to the Lord’s work; (4) praying; (5) singing (a capella) psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.”

“In faith and practice they date back to the founding of the church of the New Testament on the first Pentecost after Jesus’ resurrection. They call for a complete return to the New Testament, and seek to restore in their worship, organization, and life the pattern of New Testament Christianity. Rejecting all party names, creeds and organization in their abhorrence of divisional denominationalism in Christianity, they plead for unity of all believers on the basis of the Bible alone...”

**READ ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF ACTS IN YOUR BIBLE!**

...Selected



**Prayer List:** Paul Brandon, John Brinkley, James “Ed” Edwards (Betty Enoch’s brother-in-law), Darlene Hale (Mary Vincent’s sister), Binita Irvin, Warren Jackson, Ross Simons, Joan Turnbow (Betty Enoch’s mother), Ovie Ward (Bobby’s father), Frances Wyatt (Roy & Marie Wyatt’s sister-in-law) and any who may be in need of our prayers.

**Shut-ins:** Anne Brinkley, Tom Meredith & Mary Miller.

**News at Green Plain**



We congratulate **Eddie & Jana Ward** as they welcome **Lyla Jane Ward**, born **January 8th**. She weighed **8 lbs** and was **20 1/2 inches** long. Proud big brothers are **Isaac & Titus**, and grandparents are **Bobby & Faye Ward**.

We are happy to announce that **Shane Smith** was baptized into Christ. Let us strive to be an encouragement to him and continue to rejoice with his family.

**Elders/Deacons Meeting:** **Wednesday**, the **20th**.

**Monthly Luncheons:** Our monthly luncheons will be on **Thursday**, the **21st** at **11:30 am**. The **ladies** are going to **August Moon** and the **men** to **Sirloin Stockade**.

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK**

**“And He is the head of the body, the church: Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence”  
(Colossians 1:18).**

**ATTENDANCE  
January 10, 2010**

<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>Worship P.M.</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Worship A.M.</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>Mid-week (1-6)</b>	<b>57</b>

GREEN PLAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 3980 MURRAY PARIS ROAD  
 HAZEL, KY 42049

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. BULK RATE  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Hazel, KY  
 Permit No. 6

The church building is located southeast of Murray - One mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**  
 January 2010

**USHERS:** Robert & Preston Barrett  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Larry Enoch

**PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S TABLE**  
**AM:** Bobby Ward & Roy Wyatt  
**Substitute:** Bobby Hall

**ASSIST AT THE LORD'S TABLE:**  
**AM:** Dave Thompson & Jesse Vincent  
**Substitute:** Frank Towery

**Sunday PM**  
 1-17.....Paul Brandon  
 1-24.....Chad Canter  
 1-31.....Frank Pool

**SCRIPTURE READING:**  
 1-17.....James Pigg (Mt. 24:32-36)  
 1-24.....Rob Enoch  
 1-31.....Bill Stubblefield

**OPENING PRAYER:**  
 1-17.....Larry Enoch  
 1-24.....Robert Meredith  
 1-31.....Paul Brandon

**CLOSING PRAYER:**  
 1-17.....Hayes Grady  
 1-24.....Roy Wyatt  
 1-31.....Ira Sellars

**COUNT CONTRIBUTION:**  
 Jesse Vincent & Preston Barrett

**SONG LEADERS:**  
 Sunday Morning.....Charles Enoch  
 Sunday Evening.....Chad Canter  
 Wednesday.....Eddie Ward  
 Substitute.....Bill Stubblefield

**COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS:**  
 Isaac Ward & Katelyn Canter

**GREETERS:** Bobby & Faye Ward

If you are unable to serve, please contact Jesse Vincent at 293-1537.



**Mark 11**

1. What need did Jesus have for a young colt that had never been sat upon?
2. What did Jesus tell them to say if any man asked them why they were taking the colt?
3. When Jesus went into the temple and threw out the money changers and those defiling the temple, what did He tell them?
4. When asked by the chief priest, scribes and elders by whose authority He did these things, He asked them one question, what was it?

1. They brought it to Jesus and cast their garments on the colt for Him to sit on (v. 7)
2. The Lord hath need of him (v. 3)
3. My house shall be called the house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves (v. 17)
4. The baptism of John was it from heaven or of men? (v. 30)

**Remember to bring snacks for the hospital.**

**Pantry Item Plastic Utensils**

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....10:00 A.M.  
 Worship.....10:45 A.M.  
 Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 P.M.  
 For transportation call 492-8206  
 "A Friendly Welcome Awaits You"

**RADIO PROGRAMS**

**WORDS OF LIFE RADIO BROADCAST**  
 Weekdays, 11:30 AM. WNBS RADIO (1340 AM) Murray, KY

**SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES RADIO BROADCAST**  
 Sunday, 7:30 A.M...WNBS RADIO (1340 AM) Murray, KY

**PHONE:** (270) 492-8206

**WEB SITE:** www.greenplain.org

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**SERMON TOPICS FOR**  
**January 17, 2010**

A.M. - The 2 Comings of Matthew 24

P.M. - Trying to Force God into Your Mold

**WHAT ONE MUST DO TO BE SAVED**

**Hear the gospel**  
*Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17*

**Believe**  
*Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6*

**Repent**  
*Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30*

**Confess faith in Christ**  
*Mt. 10:32, Acts 8:37, Rom. 10:10*

**Be baptized (immersed)**  
*Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 10:47-48; 22:16; Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:21*

**Continue faithful unto death**  
*Mt. 25:21,34; 2 Pt. 1:1-11; Rev. 2:10; 1 Jn. 1:6-9*