



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 27

August 4, 2009

Number 31

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

THE CHRISTIAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

He is **crucified** with Christ (Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:6).

He is **buried** with Christ (Romans 6:4).

He is **raised up** in a new life with Christ (Colossians 2:12).

He **lives** with Christ (Romans 6:8; 2 Timothy 2:11).

He **reigns** with Christ (2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 1:5-6).

He is a **joint heir** with Christ (Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 6:6-7).

He **suffers** with Christ (1 Peter 4:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:12).



Instrumental Music in Worship

Robert Meredith

There are two basic approaches in matters of religion. Many approach religion with the mindset of what I think is acceptable. When religious questions or situations are discussed, the response will be something to the effect, "I don't see anything wrong with that." This is certainly true when one is dealing with the subject of mechanical instruments of music in worship. When asked if mechanical instruments of music in worship are acceptable the person often responds, "Well, I don't see anything wrong with it, after all God did not say not to use the instrument!" The other approach to the use of the mechanical instruments in worship or any other religious practice is, "What has God authorized?" Notice the vast difference between the two attitudes. The former bases his religion on what he thinks, while the latter bases it on what God has said. Which is correct? Why is it that churches of Christ do not use mechanical instruments of music in worship?

The Holy Spirit guided the Apostle Paul to pen, "*And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...*" (Colossians 3:17). To do something "*in word*" means what one

teaches; to do in “*deed*” means what one practices or does religiously. Therefore, whatever a person teaches or does spiritually must be done “*in the name of the Lord Jesus.*” The phrase “*in the name of the Lord Jesus*” means by His authority. The Holy Spirit commands that whatever is taught or practiced religiously must be authorized by Jesus. If Jesus has not said to do it, it can not be done. This brings one to the question of how does Jesus authorize? Through His word! Jesus told the apostles that He would send the Holy Spirit to them so that His truth would be fully revealed. He told them, “*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you*” (John 14:26). All truth was promised to be revealed to the apostles. This is why the apostle Paul could write, “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works*” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). In this passage Paul informs man that the word of God makes man complete and instructs him in every good work. Therefore, if the “work” is not “spoken of” or authorized in the Bible, it is not a good work and can not be done. The Bible teaches that man can only do in religion what the Bible permits him to do.

Does the Bible authorize mechanical instruments of music in worship? The Bible teaches by direct command, approved example and necessary inference. Does the Bible command man to use mechanical instruments of music in worship? No! Is there an approved example of the early church using the mechanical instrument? No! An approved example would be an example of something being done that was fulfilling a direct command. For instance, the early church was commanded to observe the Lord’s Supper. In Acts 20:7 there is an example of the early church fulfilling the command to partake of the Lord’s Supper. There must first be an underlying command for there to be an approved example. There are examples in the New Testament of people engaging in foot-washing. How-

ever, the church does not practice foot-washing because there is no command to do so. Does the Bible imply that mechanical instruments of music were ever used in New Testament worship? No! Therefore, the Bible does not authorize the use of mechanical instruments of music in worship.

What does God’s word authorize as far as the song service is concerned? The Holy Spirit had written, “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*” (Colossians 3:16). The Lord sent the Holy Spirit to the apostles and He had Paul to pen “*singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord,*” not playing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. One might say, “Yes, but I don’t see any harm in it, what difference does it make? After all He did not say not to use it.” Remember one’s approach can not be “What is wrong with it;” it must be, “What has God said to do.” God said sing. If He had commanded to make music (a general command) then the mechanical instrument would be authorized. But He did not give a general command, He gave a specific one: “sing.” In Colossians 3:16, as in Ephesians 5:19, there is an instrument mentioned. The instrument that must be used in the song service is the heart.

My friends, when God says what to do, that eliminates everything else. For example in Hebrews 7:14, one reads, “*For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Judah; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.*” When Moses was discussing the priesthood, he said the Levites were the priestly tribe. When he said the tribe of Levi would be the priests that eliminated all the other tribes. He did not have to say, “Now Judah, Benjamin, Gad, Manasseh, Dan,...you are not to be priests.” When he said the Levites were and did not include anyone else that meant they were the only ones. Likewise, when God said sing and that is all He said, that eliminated everything else.

Let us strive to fulfill God’s instructions. In the song service He declares that everyone is to sing praises to Him with the instrument of the heart (Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:19).

I Shall Not Pass This Way Again

I expect to pass through this world but once.

Any good, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow being, let me do it now.

Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest...the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way.

Life has many choices, eternity has two.

Remember if you find yourself going in the wrong direction - Christ allows U-turns.



Prayer List: Brent Klinzing (Pansy Henry's grandson), **Joan Turnbow** (Betty Enoch's mother), **Gail Wright** and any who may be in need of our prayers.

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


News at Green Plain

Our sympathy to the family of **Peggy Adkins**, daughter of **Jim & Jean Fielder**, who passed away this past week.

Visitation Group #2 meets **Sunday, the 9th.**

Thanks to everyone who helped make our clothing and school supply giveaway a tremendous success. A special thanks to Eddie Ward for overseeing this great work and to the area congregations who helped.

Youth Devotional: Calvert City church of Christ; Tuesday, the 11th.



SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."
Ephesians 5:19

ATTENDANCE			
August 2, 2009			
Bible Study	75	Worship P.M.	63
Worship A.M.	87	Mid-week (7-29)	48

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
August 2009**

USHERS: Eddie Ward & Robert Barrett
ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chad Canter

PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S TABLE:
A.M.: Max Henry & James Pigg
Substitute: Bobby Hall

ASSIST AT THE LORD'S TABLE :
A.M.: Frank Towery & Preston Barrett
Substitute: Robert Meredith

Sunday P.M.
8-9.....Bobby Ward
8-16.....Hayes Grady
8-23.....James Pigg
8-30.....Frank Pool

SCRIPTURE READING:
8-9.....Eddie Ward (Rom. 1:14-17)
8-16.....Hayes Grady
8-23.....Paul Brandon
8-30.....Larry Enoch

OPENING PRAYER:
8-9.....Brent Morris Jr.
8-16.....John Brinkley
8-23.....Roy Wyatt
8-30.....Rex Enoch

CLOSING PRAYER:
8-9.....Dave Thompson
8-16.....Bill Stubblefield
8-23.....Preston Barrett
8-30.....Frank Towery

COUNT CONTRIBUTION:
Robert Barrett & Paul Brandon

SONG LEADERS:
Sunday Morning...Charles Enoch
Sunday Evening....Larry Enoch
Wednesday.....Bill Stubblefield
Substitute.....James Pigg

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS:
Matthias Meredith & Kye Luffman

GREETERS: Chad & Vicki Canter
LAWN CARE: Larry Enoch

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



Matthew 17

1. Who was with Jesus when He was transfigured?
2. Who appeared with Jesus?
3. Who did Jesus say was the second coming of Elijah?
4. What town was Jesus and His disciples in when they were questioned about paying tribute (taxes)?

1. Peter, James & John (verse 1)
2. Moses and Elijah (verse 3)
3. John the Baptist (vs. 12-13)
4. Capernaum (verse 24)



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



**Pantry Item
Fruit Cocktail**

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

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**SERMON TOPICS FOR
August 9, 2009**

A.M. - I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel
P.M. - I Perceive that Thou Art a Prophet

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