

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING MAN

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8
God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4
Christ's Blood Shed - Romans 5:9-11
The Gospel - Romans 1:16

Our Response:

Faith - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16
Repentance - Luke 13:3
Confession - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for remission of sins -
Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21;
Be faithful, committed, walk in light -
Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7-10

LORD'S DAY ASSIGNMENTS

for today - May 17

READ SCRIPTURE
Wayne Hatcher

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Willie Cyphers

OFFICIATE LORD'S TABLE
Sydney Bunnell

SERVE COMMUNION
Rex Wallace
Mark Hatcher Phillip Perkins

PREACHING
a. m. - Wayne Hatcher
p. m. - Wayne Hatcher

LEAD SINGING
Scott Huff

A Captive Audience from page 1

Barbarians had failed to do in a frontal attack on the Imperial Palace, the prisoner-preacher had done with his message!

Do you have an audience? They will hear *only if you speak!*

- via The Voice of Truth International
Vol. 40

Worship

To worship is to quicken the **conscience**
by the **holiness** of God,

To feed the **mind** with the **truth** of God,
To purge the **imagination** by the
beauty of God,

To open the **heart** to the **love** of God,
To devote the **will** to the **purpose** of
God.

Such worship brings **joy** to the **heart** of
God!

- William Temple



A Weekly Publication of the
**Horse Cave
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES: **Sunday:** Bible Study 10 AM;
Worship 11 AM & 6 PM **Wednesday:** Bible Study 7 PM

CHURCH WEB PAGE: www.horsecavecoc.com

Focused on Christ - Thankful for our Salvation - Glorifying the Lord - Serving through Love - Preaching Christ to the World

We gladly welcome you to our congregation, trusting that - if you are *seeking Christ* you will find Him here, if *sorrowing* you will receive comfort and strength here, if *troubled in spirit* you will gain the blessing of peace here, if *discouraged* you will rejoice in encouragement and hope here, if *friendless* you will find companionship and Christian love here. That these and other blessings may be yours is our prayer.

**Horse Cave
Church of Christ**

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A Captive Audience by Stan Mitchell

"Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the Gospel. As a result, it has become clear to the whole Palace Guard..." (Philippians 1: 12,13).

There was a man who smuggled Bibles into the Soviet Union. I remember that he described what happened when the authorities questioned him. He would be in one of those rooms with a glass window, rather like the interrogation room depicted on police shows on television. Realizing that there were probably several of the interrogator's superiors on the other side of the glass window, he decided to preach the Gospel. Thus he neatly turned the tables, changing them from captors to a captive audience.

I can just picture Paul, chained to a grim Roman soldier, a member of the Praetorian guard - a sort of Green Beret division of the Roman army. Every day, while Paul consulted with Christian brethren who visited, the guard was forced to listen. When Paul offered Biblical solutions to church problems, he overheard. He couldn't help it! When one of Paul's antagonists entered, the guard had to observe Paul's use of scripture and Christ-like love to win him over.

So what could Roman authorities do? Replace an increasingly sympathetic soldier with another? Sure! and Paul would influence him. too! And the next, and the next, until the whole "palace guard" had heard the Gospel! I can almost detect the twinkle in Paul's eye when a new guard—the evening shift - would come in and growl: "Give me your arm, preacher man. I'm chaining you up."

Soldiers changed from physical to spiritual warfare. Captors became captive to Christ. Iron chains became bonds of God's love. What hordes

concluded on back page

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749



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Website

PERSONAL NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Brandon Schuler goes back to Louisville tomorrow. He had another CT Scan last Monday; Jean Hogan at home; Bessie Brooks on dialysis; R. T. Turner at home; James Horton; Leon Seaton; Renee` Perkins; Robert Brooks; Linda Forbes; Parker Bybee; Mary Locke; Kathy Clarke; Mark Hatcher, Dennis Hatcher & Donnie Edwards ongoing back issues; crisis in Nepal & Bangladesh; Christian Shadburne (formerly of Hart County) has been diagnosed with stage 4 pediatric cancer; Juanita Lile (Brenda Jagers' sister) recently had a mild heart attack She is now home and improving every day.

Dennis Hatcher continues to improve from his triple by-pass surgery. Jennifer Hatcher likewise is recovering nicely from knee replacement surgery.

Wrendle Jones (Becky's dad) at home after having a leg amputated a month ago. Becky goes up everyday to help take care of him.

VISIT BRANDON SCHULER'S WEBSITE

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/brandonschuler>

FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

Doris Garrison; Becky Bush; Kevin Gardner; Sherry Waddell; Gunner Eaton; Clyde Salley; Jane Nichols; Doris Gibson; Margie Broady; the family of Louise Davis. She has been a long-time faithful member of the Cave City congregation. Wayne officiated at her graveside service on Thursday.

HIGHLAND RIDGE ASSISTED LIVING

Ruth Bradford 180 Scottie Drive Glasgow KY 42141

HART COUNTY HEALTH CARE

Mildred Briggs (member at Cave City)

Carroll Stilts, Sr (Dennis & Wayne's uncle)

HOMETOWN MANOR ASSISTED LIVING

Jean Turner 201 Trista Lane Glasgow, KY 42141 (270) 659-9167

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 10-13 is the date for our Vacation Bible School

Sept. 13-16 our Gospel Meeting with Mel Futrell

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Congratulations to **Brackston Banks**, son of Rico & Katie Banks and grandson of our Donnie & Helen Edwards. Brackston has been accepted at Western Ky University.

Congratulations to **Camille Edwards**, daughter of Jeff & Shellie Edwards and granddaughter of our Donnie & Helen Edwards. Camille earned a scholarship to attend Syracuse University.

We wish both of these fine young people much success.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

You are to be commended for collecting the many items for Potter Children's Home. Martha Cyphers and Renee` Perkins delivered everything on Monday. May the Lord receive the glory for this good work.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

Who were the parents of Moses?

The answer to last week's bible question:

B, F, Q, U, V, W, X and Y

Visitors are appreciated and always welcomed !!!!

THANK YOU NOTE

My Family and I want to thank everyone at the Horse Cave Church of Christ for all the calls, visits, cards, text messages and most of all the prayers that I received during my recent illness and surgery. Your concern and thoughtfulness will always be remembered and appreciated.

Thank you Willie & Martha for being there with my family on the day of my surgery. You folks are the greatest. I love all of you.

In Christian Love,
Dennis Hatcher

Hybrid Seed

When I was growing up on a dry-land farm in eastern Colorado, hybrid seed was one of the best things going. Drought tolerance, disease resistance, and other desirable traits were enhanced in hybrid varieties, generally resulting in higher yields and (we hoped) larger profits. Hybrids had their drawbacks, but the advantages out-weighed them. Today, researchers have gone a giant step further. With genetic engineering, desirable traits can be added, or undesirable ones removed, by manipulating the genetic code of the plant! Some object to genetic engineering for various reasons, but that's another discussion for another time.

Desirable as hybrids and genetic engineering might be in agriculture, they are unmitigated disasters in the spiritual realm. Jesus likened God's word to seed (Luke 8:11). We are to desire the "sincere" (unmixed, pure) word of God (1 Peter 2:2). We are specifically forbidden to add to, take from, or alter God's word in any

way (Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18, 19).

The spiritual seed, as God has given it, is perfect. No mere human can ever improve upon its "genetic code." Cross-breeding God's truth with the traditions and dogmas of man results only in a corrupt harvest.

Hybrids generally do not occur in nature. Man's manipulation is required to produce them. Likewise, man's manipulation is required in order for spiritual hybrids to occur. Unfortunately, people have not long hesitated to modify God's will, mixing in their own opinions and philosophies.

Hybrids and genetically engineered plants often produce larger yields than conventional varieties. Even so, a hybrid or altered "gospel" may produce impressive "results" (i.e. attract larger crowds, perhaps even generate many baptisms). Well-intentioned brethren may opine: "They are baptizing lots of people; they must be doing something right." Perhaps so, but not necessarily. Jesus did everything right, but even His followers sometimes "went back, and walked with Him no more" (John 6:66). Fickle, fleshly-minded folks may flock to have their ears tickled with fables and half-truths, but will find the plain truth much less tantalizing (see 2 Timothy 4:3, 4).

Let us determine beforehand that we will not yield to the temptation to sacrifice the purity of God's word for the sake of pleasing the multitudes. God's word is truth (John 17:17). The gospel is God's power unto salvation (Romans 1:16). Nothing more, nothing less, nothing else, will do.

- Joe Slater