

## 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 - July 19  
READ SCRIPTURE  
Malon Schuler  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Sydney Bunnell  
OFFICIATE LORD'S TABLE  
Mark Hatcher  
SERVE COMMUNION  
Mike Thompson Willie Cyphers  
Michael Richardson  
PREACHING  
a. m. - Wayne Hatcher  
p. m. - Wayne Hatcher  
LEAD SINGING  
Scott Huff

## Christians, Don't... con't from pg. 1

*"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1).*

Don't become permanently outraged victims. Take the initiative and be more diligent to live, teach and preach the truth. Be knowledgeable, savvy and prepared so Satan will know that we intend to fight (Ephesians 6:12-20).

God is on our side and he can't be defeated (Psalm 139; Job 38-41). We can be fearless in his light (1 John 1:7). So giving up is not allowed (Revelation 2:10).

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[I appreciate this timely and encouraging article by my good friend Richard Mansel. - Wayne]



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](http://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.

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## Christians, Don't Panic

by Richard Mansel

The erosion of religious freedoms in the United States has led Christians to express panic and near-hopelessness on social media. We've been spoiled, soft and irresolute. It's time to toughen up.

*"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you" (1 Peter 4:12, NKJV).*

Foxe's Book of Martyrs is a horrifying account of the persecutions in the early church. Their trials were much worse than we currently face even though ours are very real. They were told not to be surprised, so we shouldn't be either.

*"All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12; cf. Psalm 34:19).*

Trials strengthen our faith, so we can rejoice (James 1:2-3). Christ warned us these days would come (John 15:18-25). What is happening is discouraging, but panic denies the faith (Hebrews 11:6).

The current calamities have been unfolding in the open for decades (Acts 26:26). We're reaping the consequences of our sin. Why are Christians so shocked when sinners act like sinners? They're doing exactly what Satan desires.

Voraciously devour the Scriptures and stop being spiritually naïve (1 Peter 5:8; John 8:44). If we couldn't read the signs before, let's awaken to be more aware. If we can't handle such minor matters, what happens when it gets worse? (con't on back page)

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Website

## PERSONAL NEWS & NOTES...

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jean Hogan is very weak; Brandon Schuler; Bessie Brooks on dialysis; R. T. Turner; Leon Seaton; Renee` Perkins; Robert Brooks; Dennis Hatcher is having to reschedule his sleep apnea study; Linda Forbes; Parker Bybee; Mary Locke; James Horton; Christian Shadburne undergoing treatments for pediatric cancer. His address is on the bulletin board; Wrendle Jones (Becky's dad); Kyla (Huff) Rosser as she gets closer to her delivery time; Imogene Estes (Vickie Thompson's mother); Mike Brooks who is in Nepal assisting church members after the earthquakes; Juanita Lile (Brenda Jaggars's sister) suffered a massive stroke while mowing her lawn last week. She is at her home under the care of Hospice.

### VISIT BRANDON SCHULER'S WEBSITE

Brandon goes tomorrow to see his oncologist for a routine visit and to discuss the CT scan results from last Monday.

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/brandonschuler>  
You may leave messages on his page.

### FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

Margie Broady; Kevin Gardner; Doris Garrison; Gunner Eaton; Thelma Thompson; Ruby Whitlow; Wanda Judd; Mrs. Cagle at Hart Co. Health Care

### SYMPATHY

**Graci Lynn Richardson**, stillborn daughter of Ryan and Samantha Richardson, was laid to rest on Tuesday in the Macedonia United Baptist Church Cemetery near Cub Run. Continue to remember the Brooks and Richardson family.

### 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

### TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

What object did Samuel place at the site he called Ebenezer?

The answer to last week's bible question:  
Caiaphas Matt. 26:3-4

### Marriage by David Sain

Marriage is the product of love that begins as blind excitement and matures into commitment and responsibility.

Marriage is stronger than death, yet so fragile that we celebrate the achievement of staying together.

Marriage is a lot of routines, yet it needs daily attention ... and never to be taken for granted.

Marriage is growing up and growing old together, but it is also growing in trust and contentment.

Marriage is disappointments and hurts along the way. It is also happiness and laughter along the way. But the bad times are made a little easier, and the good times are made even better, by sharing them together.

**Visitors are always appreciated and welcomed !!!!**

## Shining Lights

by Barry Newton

How can those professing Christ impact a culture that marginalizes them or fights against Christian ways? A survey of history as well as current world events reveals this is a familiar question. Writing to a church in the midst of suffering, Paul's words suggest at least three ways for moving forward.

Starting with Paul's missionary activity in Philippi and then evident again more than a decade later when Paul wrote Philippians, opposition against Christians had broken out in that patriotic Roman colony. We learn about Paul's beatings and imprisonment in Acts 16. From Philippians we gain glimpses into their ordeal, "not being intimidated in any way by those who oppose you" (Philippians 1:28) and "it has been granted to you...to suffer for him" (Philippians 1:29).

When a culture stands opposed to God's message and his people, how can Christians make a difference? Three Pauline teachings point a way forward.

First, don't retreat. Contend for the gospel.

Using military language recalling the military invention of Philippi's namesake, Philip of Macedon, Paul exhorted the church to exemplify "standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, by contending side by side for the faith of the gospel" (Philippians 1:27). Just as soldiers unified in a phalanx stand shoulder to shoulder focused upon a single objective, so too Christians are to work together as a united force for the gospel. This is the work of all, not just a few.

Second, don't blur the gospel. Live out the Christian life. No one would take the Christian message seriously if their words were at odds with their message. Accordingly, Paul addressed the Philippian church's internal tensions, so that their life testimony would shine like lights in a dark place.

Christians are to present the gospel by the way they live as well as by the words they speak. "Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life" (Philippians 2:14-15).

Third, don't depend upon yourself. Rely on God to work. The Christian's role involves following God's marching orders. Just as Christ obeyed the Father in exemplifying selflessness and God exalted that service for his purposes (Philippians 2:5-11), so too God can work through and use the lives of obedient Christians to achieve God's purposes.

*"Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed— not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence— continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose"* (Philippians 2:12-13).

Even when God's people find themselves within an antagonistic context, their lives and message can impact that culture. God's power can be at work even in those situations to achieve his purposes.

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