

### 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 - August 9  
 READ SCRIPTURE  
 Phillip Perkins  
 ANNOUNCEMENTS  
 Bill Brooks  
 OFFICIATE LORD'S TABLE  
 Willie Cyphers  
 SERVE COMMUNION  
 Phillip Perkins Rex Wallace  
 Dennis Hatcher  
 PREACHING  
 a. m. - Wayne Hatcher  
 p. m. - Wayne Hatcher  
 LEAD SINGING  
 Ken Russell

### What Is Eternal?

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 chance. Such a claim, of course, is an assumption that is without reason and without evidence. In contrast, the Christian believes that all things were created by God. Life itself comes, not from non-life, but from the supreme Life-giver, God. Only He is eternal. We should say, as did Jeremiah, "Ah, Lord God: behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee" (Jeremiah 32:17).

### Don't Follow the Dog

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 eternity without ever returning home.  
 You have a Father who loves you, a Savior who died for you, and brothers and sisters in the Lord who care deeply for you. You've got way too much to lose in an unguarded and reckless moment.

Please take it from one who has been there  
 --- Don't follow the dog!



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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### What Is Eternal?

Can you conceive of there ever having been simply nothing? Does the present existence of something not indicate to you that something has always been? It would defy logic to think otherwise. Could anything be simpler than to conclude that from nothing, nothing comes? We live in a complex world and a complex universe. There are only two possible explanations for the existence of matter: either it has always been and is eternal, or it was created. We must conclude that either "in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1), or "in the beginning was matter." The Christian faith embraces God as the origin of all things, while atheists will accept the latter explanation for origins. However, the atheist's faith must be confronted with perplexing dilemmas.

What is eternal? If matter is eternal, then the complex designs that we see in all things, from atoms to the universe, exist without a designer. The inescapable conclusion would be, then, that the logical order of all things has come, of itself, out of illogical chaos. Therefore, we would be forced to conclude that the conditions essential for life on planet earth just happened. All the laws of nature, we would have to conclude, exist without a law-giver. We live in a world that gives every evidence that it was designed for man. It is as acknowledged by Dr. Freeman Dyson of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, "It almost seems as if the Universe must in some sense have known we were coming."

If matter is eternal, we have effects without causes. Christians look upon the laws of nature as God's laws. Atheism provides no rational explanation for natural law apart from the Law-giver. Life exists, but the atheist's faith is that life came from non-life, and that all evolved by

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## PERSONAL NEWS & NOTES...

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Brandon Schuler; Bessie Brooks on dialysis; R. T. Turner; Leon Seaton; Renee` Perkins; Robert Brooks; Linda Forbes; Parker Bybee; Mary Locke; James Horton; Christian Shadburne; Imogene Estes (Vickie Thompson's mother); Dennis Hatcher; Donnie Gale Edwards is being treated for diverticulitis; Wrendle Jones (Becky's dad) at his home; Wayne Hatcher had his first cataract surgery last Wed.

### IN THE HOSPITAL

Russell Brunt has been to Chicago to the hospital where his daughter Eugenia works to seek further solutions. Pancreatic cancer has been confirmed.

### SYMPATHY

to the family of C. G. Coomer (formerly of Cave City). bro. C. G. never recovered from the two strokes he suffered while visiting in NC; A. F. Crow in Glasgow will handle the arrangements

### FRIENDS AND COMMUNITY

Dave Puckett; Margie Broady; Kevin Gardner; Doris Garrison; Gunner Eaton; Thelma Thompson; Ruby Whitlow; Wanda Judd; Mrs. Cagle; Dane (Petett) Wilson; Marie Burd is having surgery Aug. 19 at T. J. Samson Hosp.

### VISIT BRANDON SCHULER'S WEBSITE

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/brandonschuler>  
We encourage you to leave messages on his page. It is encouraging to him and 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

### THANK YOU CARD

Mere words seem so inadequate when trying to express my gratitude to this congregation. Please accept my heartfelt appreciation for all that you did during my mother's illness and at her passing. I can never repay for all that you did.

Many, many thanks for all the cards, phone calls, visits, food and flowers over the past eight months as well as your service at her funeral, and the wonderful, delicious meal following her burial. Most of all, thank you for all the prayers. Though we did not receive the initial outcome we asked for, I know she is where she was meant to be, with my dad and other loved ones; and I feel she would be so proud to know that you honored her in such a way. Again, thanks for everything.

In Christian Love, Sharon Hogan

### MENS BIBLE CLASS

meets tomorrow night at 7:00 in the Annex. All men are encouraged to attend. It is always a very beneficial time spent discussing God's Word together.

### TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

What king's blood did dogs lick up as prophesied by Elijah?

The answer to last week's bible question:  
Golgotha John 19:17

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!!!!**

## Don't Follow the Dog

by Jim Faughn

He usually played in the back yard or in the field that adjoined it, but on this day, he found himself being lured into the front yard. His attention had been drawn to a cute little dog he hadn't seen before.

He was only allowed to cross the gravel road for one reason. If one of his parents gave him permission to retrieve the mail from the mailbox on the other side of the road, he could do so, but only after hearing the familiar, "Be sure you look both ways!"

On this day he crossed the road without looking both ways and without permission. He couldn't waste that much time. His new friend was already well ahead of him.

Before he knew it, he was in the woods across the road from his house. Yes, those woods. The woods his parents had made sound so terrible. His new friend apparently hadn't seen any danger though, so he had happily followed him into the "forbidden forest."

Before long, a new realization dawned on him. He had no idea where he was. He also had no idea where his new friend was. He was surrounded by briars. He was all alone. He was scared. He wanted to go home, but he did not know how to get there.

He was very glad to hear his dad's voice calling his name!

He knew he might be in trouble for doing what his parents had told him repeatedly not to do, but he didn't care. He just wanted to go home. He had no desire to ever be in those woods again. He didn't care if he ever saw that dog again (which he didn't).

Later, he discovered why his parents had warned him so sternly about those woods.

There was an old abandoned well in those woods. He learned that his dad's heart sank when he saw the evidence that his only child had been dangerously close to that well. The well was so well hid with leaves, limbs, etc. that the father feared that there was a chance that his son's body would never be found if, indeed, his son had fallen into the well.

The little boy never knew he was in that much danger. He just knew that his "adventure" wasn't as exciting or rewarding as he had thought it might be and that he was more than ready for the comfort and security of home.

About sixty years later, that "little boy" has five grandchildren, all of whom are older than he was when his carelessness could have cost him his life. In those sixty or so years, he's seen his story repeated countless numbers of times.

He's seen far too many people follow a person, a lifestyle, a philosophy, and any number of other things so far "into the woods" that they become totally disoriented and estranged from the people who really love them. More importantly, they have become so confused and entangled that they don't think they can find their way back to God.

For more than thirty of those sixty years He has attempted to warn people about the dangers of being lured in and/or lured away by improper influences. He's also spent quite a bit of time trying to reclaim those who have become ensnared by Satan and his "devices" (cf. 2 Cor. 2:11).

He has shed tears of joy when a precious soul has returned home. He has also shed tears of sadness when one has gone into  
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