



**Hi Tech Power vacuum air duct cleaning, chimney & dryer vent cleaning, chimney sweep. Hi Efficient air filters. Commercial & residential.**  
417-257-4941  
Pomona 36-39pb

### Heat and Air

**2006 Hardy wood furnace.**  
417-293-5929  
West Plains 38p

**Super Jack SJ 125 wood furnace, complete with purge fan and circulating fan, new in 2009, over \$3000 new, \$900.**  
417-252-0662  
Willow Springs 37-38p

### Musical

**Just in, 3/4 size Fender acoustic guitar, natural finish, sounds great, for sale or trade, only at Ozark Trading Post.**  
417-934-6410  
Mtn. View 38p

**Mint 2002 Fender American Deluxe Stratocaster guitar with small Tech 21 amp, \$1000.**  
417-505-9290  
West Plains 38p

**Taylor guitar, 310-L2, maple side-back with hard case, one owner, \$1000. Phone 417-274-7509.**  
West Plains 37-38p

### Flea Markets

**Trinkets & Treasures Flea Market, located at HG Farmer's Feed has booth space available, starting at \$10, flat rate, no percentage.**  
510 E. 5th St., 417-934-2576.  
Mtn. View 28ffc

### Sales

**Arts and crafts plus sale September 22 and 23, 1605 Amy St., West Plains. Lots of gift ideas.**  
West Plains 38p

**Friday 8 to 5, Saturday 8 to 12, unless customers still coming! Clothes; pictures; sewing machines; vacuum cleaner; shoes and lots of other stuff. All proceeds go back into upkeep of building. Like us on Facebook at Hutton Valley Neighborhood Watch.**  
Hutton Valley 38p

**Multi-family yard sale Friday and Saturday, Sept. 22 & 23, 1 mile south on V Highway, (Trask), Mtn View. Lots of furniture, daybed & trundle.**  
Mtn. View 38p

### Sales

**Multi family yard sale, Saturday 9-23 and Sunday 9-24. Tons of clothes & shoes, boutique & name brand items, women's and men's, all sizes, including plus size men's; home decor, miscellaneous items galore. Look for the signs off the square on Washington Avenue in West Plains near Dixie Soul Boutique.**  
Starts at 7:30am  
West Plains 38p

### Furniture/Appliances

**Lovely small cherry secretary desk, \$85.**  
417-256-7544 or 417-274-4098.  
West Plains 38nc

**Refurbished household appliances. Washers, dryers, refrigerators, stove, \$75 to \$175, with one month guarantee and delivery, will buy non-working, non-computerized refrigerators, electric stoves, dryers and washing machines.**  
417-372-1295  
Thayer 34ffc

### Miscellaneous Items

**52 inch projection screen TV, works great, \$50; 36 inch white storm door, swing out, right hinge, \$50.**  
417-257-3838  
West Plains 38p

### Amish Woodworking

**Custom cabinets, interior house trim, lumber planing and tongue & groove. Riv-erbank Woodworks, 373 Old Ridge Trail, Salem, AR 72576.**  
870-895-2403  
Salem, Ar 38-43c

### Mums

**Giant mums available now! Hurry for best selection. 5 colors. Butterfly Gardens, 160 West to Southfork, left on E, follow signs. 606-375-9504**  
West Plains 38-39p

**Mums, cold hardy pansies, broccoli, cabbage and kale bedding plants. Fresh shipment of shrubs, too! St. Michael's Nursery, 9460 County Rd. 8860. 417-867-3340**  
Brandsville 38c

### Tickets

**Half price Branson tickets, Moon River and Me Tribute Show, \$19.50 each, 4 available.**  
417-712-3941  
Caulfield 38nc

## UNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHETS

### “MALACHI - INTRODUCTION”

“The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi” (Malachi 1:1). We are told very little about Malachi. His name is mentioned in the opening verse of the book but we know nothing of his family, hometown, occupation, etc. His name means “my messenger”, “The name Malachi means ‘my messenger’” (James E Smith, The Minor Prophets, College Press, 1994, p.483). Tradition states, “Tradition held that Malachi was a Levite who was born at Supha and who lived in the region of Zebulun” (James E Smith, The Minor Prophets, College Press, 1994, p. 484). Malachi was the last prophet God would send to His people until John the Baptist, the fore-runner of the Lord, and Jesus Christ Himself would appear on the scene, about 400 years after.

Many scholars, like Homer Hailey, date the book between 445 and 432 BC. However, James E Smith dates it from 432 -425 BC. He bases his argument on two passages of scripture. “And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the Lord of hosts” (Malachi 1:8), and, “Now that which was prepared for me (Nehemiah - LY) daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people” (Nehemiah 5:18). At this point, we will let Smith explain his own conclusion. “Malachi challenged his audience to present an offering to their governor (Mal. 1:8). Yet the scriptures declare that Nehemiah did not receive gifts from those he governed (Neh. 5:15,18). Therefore one might conclude that Malachi ministered at a time when Nehemiah was absent from Jerusalem. On this solitary piece of evidence the position has been taken here that Malachi ministered between the two governorships of Nehemiah, sometime between 432 and 425 BC” (James E Smith, The Minor Prophets, College Press, 1994, p. 485). Undoubtedly, Malachi appeared in or around the times of Ezra and/or Nehemiah.

The message of the book was to address indifference to both the moral and ceremonial aspects of God's divine law. Hailey states, “The exiles had been back in Judea from Babylon for over one hundred years; but instead of becoming better, they had become worse” (Homer Hailey, The Minor Prophets, Baker Book House, 1972, p.403). The people were offering corrupted sacrifices unto God, “But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: ...” (Malachi 1:14). The people were not honoring their tithes and offerings, “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings” (Malachi 3:8). The people had divorced their wives and married those of the heathen who worshipped strange gods, “For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously” (Malachi 2:16), and, “Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god” (Malachi 2:11). The captivity had not completely turned the hearts of the people back unto their God. Therefore, judgment would come upon Judah and Jerusalem at a later date, but before it did, God would send John the Baptist in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and vice versa, lest the Lord come and smite the earth with a curse (please see and read Malachi 4:5-6 and Matthew 11:13-15).

## CURRY STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*The views expressed in this article are not necessarily the views of the staff & management of The Ozark Horse Trader. Articles provided & paid for by: Curry Street Church of Christ & Prairie Grove Church of Christ*

## Prairie Grove Church of Christ

S.R.FF (5 Miles from W-160)  
Caulfield, Missouri

### HOW IS RELIGIOUS UNITY ATTAINED?

What is unity? According to Webster's Dictionary, unity is a state of oneness, harmony, accord, a state of being one. Someone may ask, “Is it possible for all of the religious world to be united?” The answer, of course, is yes if everyone is willing to follow the inspired word of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17)! It is actually impossible for one to properly study the word of God, and fail to see that God desires for all those who would be His children to be united. Our precious Savior prayed: “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word. That they all may be one; as thou Father, art in me, and I in thee, that the world may believe that thou hast sent me” (Jno. 17:20-21).

That unity is possible and desired can not only be seen from the prayer of our Lord, but also by the plea of the apostle Paul to the Corinthians, “Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10). To the Ephesians, Paul wrote, “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (Eph. 4:4-6).

Since Christ prayed for unity, and Paul pleaded for unity, its attainment is possible and essential! Now then is religious unity possible? Simply stated, unity is obtained and maintained by cleaving to the inspired word of God! My friends, please listen, **that which has never nor ever will produce religious unity is:**

- Human Creeds, Disciplines, Confessions of Faith, Hand Books, Manuals and Catechisms.
- Denominational Names.
- Denominational Churches.
- Denominational Baptisms.

**However, that which has and will always produce religious unity is:**

- The Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Pet.4:11).
- Bible Names (Ac.11:26; 20:28; Rom.16:16, etc.).
- The New Testament Church (Mat.16:18; Eph.4:4; Ac.2:47).
- New Testament Baptism (Mk.16:15-16; Ac.2:38; 1 Pet.3:21).

It is the fervent plea of churches of Christ that all men lay aside that which creates religious division, and be content to follow only the Bible. In so doing they will simply be a member of the church you can read about in the Bible, “the churches of Christ salute you” (Rom. 16:16).

*Sunday: Bible Study 10:00 A.M.*

*Worship 11:00 A.M. • Worship 6:00 P.M.*

*Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.*

*“The churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16*

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