

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

## Pleasant View church of Christ

### Balance

When Ira North began preaching for the Madison church of Christ in 1953, the church had approximately 400 members, a large church even by today's standards. By the time Brother North died in 1984 at the age of 61, Madison was the largest church of Christ in the world, with a membership that numbered in the thousands. His method for church growth was summarized in a single word, and that word was the title of the book he wrote on the subject. The book was "Balance," published in 1983. Madison wasn't driven by trendiness, progressiveness, or passiveness; it was driven by balance in

all things. All congregations of our Lord's church can grow today if each one is biblically balanced. Someone once said, "For every mile of road, there are two miles of ditches." As God's church travels life's road, we must be aware of the pitfalls to the left and to the right. We should stay within the bounds of Scripture at all times. And when we see those who are caught in the ditches, we should not "over-correct" and run to the opposite extreme.

In the left ditch are those who driven by American religious culture. They are more interested in keeping up with their religious neighbors than grounding

themselves in God's word. In the right ditch are those who seem to be members of the "church of NO!" instead of the church of Christ. They object to every suggestion of outreach, benevolence, youth work, etc. solely because it has never been done before, or because it makes them feel uncomfortable. A similar attitude could be found in the hearts of the ancient Pharisees.

Let's remember the principle of the restoration leaders: "Where the Bible speaks, we speak; where the Bible is silent, we are silent."

James Hayes

August 4, 2013

Issue 123

#### Items of Note:

- **WHAT A WEEK!** Our Gospel Meeting was an encouraging, educational experience. We had over 50 people from the community with us, and our attendance increased each night. We had 98 in attendance Wednesday night!
- Jessica Humston is taking IV chemo again since her pills were ineffective.
- John Hayes will have one more chemo treatment in late August.

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**Hillcrest Nursing Home Worship Today at 2:30**  
**Joey Spann Address: 1000 Pin Oak Dr. Antioch, TN 37013**

#### THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Newell

Pray: Billingsley

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Reed

Serve: Donkin, Stuard, Walker

Pray: Rose

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Pleasant View church of Christ  
2500 Highway 49 East  
P.O. Box 189  
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30  
A.M. Worship: 10:30  
P.M. Worship: 6:00  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm  
Phone: 924-9714

Proverbs 23:31-32  
“Do not look on the wine  
when it is red, when it  
sparkles in the cup, when it  
goes down smoothly. At the  
last it bites like a serpent  
and stings like a viper.”

*“You never have to advertise a fire. Everyone comes running when there’s a fire. Likewise, if your church is on fire, you will not have to advertise it. The community will already know it.”*

*Leonard Ravenhill*

*“Let us return to the basic things of the Word of God and prayer and soul winning and revival. Let us pray, ‘O God, send a revival. Let it begin in me.’”*

*Lee Roberson*

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## The Problem With Evolution

Colossians 1:13-17: “For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on the earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”

Since Charles Darwin wrote his famous “Origin of Species” in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, evolution has been accepted by popular culture as an

explanation of the creation and adaptation of all things. The above passage of Scripture stands in stark contrast to the evolution theory.

Evolution is grounded on two principles: First, that plants, animals, and man evolve from one species to another over millions of years and, second, that the fittest species survive and become ever stronger. The implications of this theory stretch far beyond an explanation of how we got here. It makes man a descendent of animals. It pits races of humans against one another. It cheapens human life. Evolutionist Adolf Hitler believed that Aryan or Nordic people had “out-advanced” all other races; therefore, the lesser races

could be eliminated from earth.

We know that God created man in His image. That fact answers both principles of evolution. It shows that the all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present God made us in a way He did not make the rest of creation. Animals were not made in God’s image. Plants were not made that way either. Man was the crowning jewel of all creation, and man was told to subdue all other created things. Colossians 1 teaches us that everything was made to the glory of God and for His Son.

We only need to evolve in one way: into the likeness of Christ.

James Hayes

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