

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

The Shamelessness of Drinking

October 6, 2013

Issue 131

The United States is swimming in alcohol. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, only 22 percent of women and 11 percent of men are lifetime abstainers from alcohol. CNN Money reported that bourbon and Tennessee whiskey alone generated \$2.2 billion in revenue in 2012. Anheuser-Busch, the self-proclaimed King of Beers, raked in \$39.8 billion last year. The wave of alcohol has unfortunately flooded Christian homes as well.

When I was growing up (not that long ago), if I went to the wedding of two Christians, there was no drinking and rarely any dancing at the reception. If

I were eating at a restaurant with a drinker, he/she wouldn't order alcohol out of respect for me. Friends would not offer me a drink or invite me to a party where there would be drinking. Even Christians who would adamantly defend "social drinking" did their drinking with like-minded people, discreetly.

Times have changed.

Many drinkers today don't just drink—they celebrate drinking. They are sure to hold their drink in the air when a picture is taken, and then they download that picture to Facebook or Twitter for the world to see, without a second thought. More and more

Christians proudly drink wine and beer occasionally while murmuring something about Jesus turning water to wine and "moderation."

Every time Christians step toward drinking, they are stepping in the direction of alcoholism, domestic violence, date rape, and unemployment. Drinking is a vote in favor of worldliness. But Scripture teaches us not to be "conformed to this world..." (Rom. 12:2). Abstaining from alcohol in an alcohol-saturated society is a vote in favor of godliness.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Jessica Humston will have her next chemo on October 22 and have another scan. Her blood numbers and weight are good!
- Sheila Crouch is now cancer free after extensive chemo!
- Larry Crabtree is recovering at home after two foot surgeries.
- Hillcrest (Springfield) and Greenbrier (Ashland City) churches are having Gospel Meetings this week.

Hillcrest Nursing Home Worship Today at 2:30 Great Building Fund Contribution Last Week!!

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Billingsley

Serve: Demonbreum, Stuard, Terry Walker

Pray: JW Head

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 6:32
“The one who commits
adultery with a woman is
lacking sense; He who would
destroy himself does it.”

*“Some people are so afraid to die that they
never begin to live.”*

Henry Van Dyke

*“He who is completely sanctified, or cleansed
from all sin, and dies in this state, is fit for
glory.”*

Adam Clarke

*“One can survive everything, nowadays, except
death...”*

Oscar Wilde

Spiritually Minded

Near the end of his epistle on joy, Paul wrote: “Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence, and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things” (Phil. 4:8). Sometimes that verse is isolated from the context of the chapter and used as a lesson on optimism: you’ll feel better if you think better. But the context of chapter four of Philippians suggests a much deeper meaning for verse eight.

In verses two and three, Paul noted a conflict between two women, Euodia and Syntyche, and he encouraged the other Christians in

Philippi to help them resolve the issue. He then taught them to take all of their matters to the Lord: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God” (v. 6). Doing so would bring unfathomable peace into their lives (v. 7). He concludes by encouraging them to think good thoughts.

Verse eight is not just about optimism. It’s about being spiritually minded. If we see life from a spiritual perspective, we will have less conflict. If we see life from a spiritual perspective, we will pray more. The Colossians were commanded to set their minds on “things above,

not on the things that are on the earth” (Col. 3:2).

Spirituality is not about hearing voices or seeing visions. It’s not about removing oneself from society and living a monastic life. Spirituality is simply living by faith. It’s living as if tomorrow will never come. It’s about loving the Lord your God with all of your heart, soul, strength, and mind.

No one was more spiritually minded than Jesus. If we are to wear His name, we should be like Him.

James Hayes
