
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

II Corinthians 7:10
“For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.”

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”

C.S. Lewis

“Faithless is he who says farewell when the road darkens.”

J.R. Tolkien

“All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Preventing An Explosion

In February, two manhole covers in Columbus, OH shot into the air. Thankfully, no one was injured. After months of investigation, it was determined that the blast occurred because water, salt, and other elements decayed electric cable insulation under the street.

When we leave matters unattended, they tend to become big explosions later. Unresolved issues don't resolve themselves. They usually just create bigger issues down the line.

A clause in the 5th Amendment of the Constitution states: “[Nor] shall any person for the subject of the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb...” Once a “guilty” or “not guilty” verdict has

been rendered, or if an unconditional plea agreement has been reached, that's it: the person cannot be tried again for the same crime. The Constitution prevents “double jeopardy”.

Wouldn't it be great if families and churches operated under that same rule? What if a family put up a sign in their house that read “Double Jeopardy Is Forbidden Here”. That way, when an issue came up and someone was “put on trial”, the issue would be discussed, punishment handed out (if needed), and the case would be forever resolved—never to be brought up again. But we know that's not how most families operate.

It is okay if issues take a while to resolve. And it's okay if the emotional impact of the issue lingers for years. (We can't really control our emotions, after all.) But a plan should always be in place to find a resolution, and once the matter is resolved, it should stay resolved.

“Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering” (Matt. 6:23-24).

James Hayes

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Polarization

This or that. Here or there. Pick a side. My team or their team. We are living in a polarizing age where there is just a small sliver of middle ground. For example, in foreign policy, if you favor negotiations, you're weak; if you favor bombing, you're a war monger. If you were a virgin until marriage, you're pure; if you ever strayed in that area, you're no different than a prostitute. The problem with the polarized view of life is that it makes it nearly impossible for a person to move from one side to the other. There is no room for reconciliation or peace. Once a label gets applied, it becomes a tattoo.

Wisdom, however, often

resides between two extremes. A wise man lives in a both/and world, not in an either/or world. Don't misunderstand: Both/and doesn't mean moral compromise or "going along just to get along." It means seeing the big picture. It means incorporating grace where legalism reigns. It means incorporating obedience where licentiousness reigns. It means letting a child enjoy life and express his/her personality, while also setting clear boundaries. It means counseling the alcoholic while condemning the sinful behavior.

Many congregations have hindered their growth because they have chosen to

live on the extremes. Their preachers use the pulpit as a means to advance an agenda—either a conservative or liberal one—instead of using it to promote the gospel. In turn, the lost feel like they are being asked to join a club instead of being encouraged to be a disciple of Christ. But that is not the design or mission of the church.

II John 9: "Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; and the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son."

James Hayes

September 7, 2014

Issue 178

Items of Note:

- Thank you to all of our Bible Bowl participants and the adults who helped make yesterday a success. A lot of planning and hard work went into this event, and we are blessed by having done it.
- If you were not here last week due to Labor Day travel, remember to contribute to the building fund by just adding that amount to your contribution today.

Remember Our Missionaries In Your Prayers Also Remember Those Who Are Shut-In

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Reed

Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Shelton

Serve: Demonbreum, L. Newell, Billingsley

Pray: Brown