

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Five Questions You Must Answer

November 9, 2014

Issue 187

Someone once said, "Life is the hardest teacher. It gives the test first and the lesson after." So true. And the tests usually come in the form of questions. Here are questions you must answer before you die:

(1). *Do you believe in God and His Son Jesus?* When Philip the evangelist began teaching the Ethiopian eunuch from Isaiah 53, the eunuch absorbed the life-altering information quickly. He was so moved by Philip's message that he asked to be baptized. Philip said he could if he believed with all his heart that Jesus was the Son of God. The eunuch did, so Philip baptized him immediately, and the eunuch went on his

way rejoicing. Your rejection or acceptance of Jesus has eternal consequences. You need to confess Christ at your baptism and continue to confess His name for the rest of your life.

(2). *Will you be faithful to your spouse?* At no point in American history has it been easier to cheat than it is today. Through the Internet and social media, the world has become a small place. Disgruntled husbands and wives can find an outlet for their frustrations with one click of a computer mouse, either by coordinating illicit affairs or by creating an "emotional affair" with a willing participant through chat rooms and interactive

games. If you ever feel yourself slipping away from your spouse, remember your vows. You said, "Till death do us part." You said, "In sickness and in health." Repeat those vows to your spouse once a year in order to remind yourself that you made a lifelong commitment before God and man.

(3). *Do you love your neighbor as yourself?* You have probably given yourself all sorts of reasons not to love your neighbor: "He hurt my feelings ten years ago"; "She doesn't like me"; "He got the job that I wanted"; or, "Her skin is a different color than mine."

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Items of Note:

- Tasha Helton went home this week. Baby Ivan is gradually improving.
- Sympathy is extended to Maime Hamilton on the loss of her sister-in-law, Marcene Simpson. The funeral was Friday.
- We will begin a study of the apostles this Wednesday night in the auditorium class.
- Continue to pray for Mildred Walker, Rick Reed, Addie Farmer, Jay Newell, and Bill Johnson.

Men's Meeting Tonight At 5:00; Singing Tonight At 6:00
Please Email Janet Tabor If You Have Church News During The Week

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School
Read: Garrett
Pray: E. Walker

Morning Worship
Wait on the Table: Shelton
Serve: Trent, Billingsley, J. Walker
Pray: Reed

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

Psalm 42:5

“Why are you in despair, o my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence.”

A preacher was encouraging his congregation to give more money in the contribution. He said, “Whoever gives the most money today will get to pick out three hymns next week.” That day an envelope with \$1000 cash was put into the plate. The preacher said, “Whoever gave this money, please come forward.” A young lady went up front, and the preacher told her to pick out three hymns. She scanned the congregation and said, “I pick him, him, and him.”

Understanding Proverbs

It is easy to surround ourselves with people who are just like us while shunning anybody who is slightly different. Thankfully, Jesus didn't act that way. He ate with “sinners”. He spoke to women. He touched lepers. He commended the poor. His love was not exclusive. If we are to wear His name as Christians, we must love everyone we encounter.

(4). *Will I share the gospel with someone else?* In the first half of the 20th century, churches of Christ were one of the fastest growing religious bodies in America. Why? For many reasons, but not the least of which was the fact that individual members had a burning desire to evangelize. They saw evangelism as a “salvation

issue”—if they didn't teach someone else, they'd lose their soul. Many today have become apathetic to the spiritual condition of their neighbors. Instead, an us-versus-them mentality has taken hold: “If you're not in the church, you're the enemy. You have to come to me; I'm not going to you.” If someone took the time to teach you, shouldn't you take the time to teach someone else?

(5). *Will you be happy?* Jesus never promised happiness per se, but we go too far when we talk of happiness like it's an unobtainable thing. Jesus said that we'd be blessed in this life—blessings produce happiness. Paul told us that we could find joy in our faith (Phil. 1:25). We are made to be

sad when bad things happen; that's human. But we sin when we choose sorrow when we are surrounded by abundant blessings. The first step in evangelism is a smiling face. Why would anyone want to become a Christian if you seem to be miserable living as a Christian?

You will have to answer many more questions than these in life. But when we follow God's paths, the correct answers will be clearly seen. They might not be easy to follow in a world filled with rebelliousness, but obeying them will bring immeasurable joy.

James Hayes
