

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Jumping To Conclusions

December 21, 2014

Issue 193

You hear a gunshot. You see a man run out of a building carrying a gun. You run into the building and see a man lying on the floor, dead. The police arrive on the scene and ask you what happened. You would most likely say, "The man that ran out of the building shot the man who is lying on the floor." But is that *really* what happened? Did you see the man get shot? How do you know there were not two men? One man could've shot the gun, dropped it, and then another man could've picked it up and run out the door.

How many times have you jumped to conclusions without all the facts? We all

have. We've cried, "Politics!" when we think an unqualified person got a job. We've assigned blame and innocence to a husband and wife instantly when we hear that they are getting a divorce. We've looked at poor people and said, "If they'd only work harder, they wouldn't be so poor." But...were you in the interview when that person was hired? Were you living in the house with that couple and therefore know exactly why they are divorcing? Did you know how many hours that person worked and what financial obligations they had? The answer is usually "no" to all three questions. But we still draw conclusions.

Proverbs 25:8: "Do not go out hastily to argue your case; otherwise, what will you do in the end, when your neighbor humiliates you?"

In other words, get the facts first. Whether you're going to court to defend yourself (the primary issue in this verse), or you are observing the actions of others, take the time to know the full story. Or else risk embarrassment. Christians should be known as truth-tellers, not gossip spreaders.

"Buy truth and do not sell it, get wisdom and instruction and understanding" (Prov. 23:23).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Former member Vida Thompson fell at home and is currently in NHC in Springfield, Room #19. Cards would be appreciated.
- Be safe this Christmas week!
- We'll continue our study of the apostles in the auditorium Wednesday night by studying Philip.
- Please pray for Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, Judy York, Rick Reed, Maxine Hearn, and the Newells.

This Week We Will Meet On Tuesday Night Instead of Wednesday Night Check The Christmas Boxes Before You Leave

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School
Read: JL Shelton
Pray: Baker

Morning Worship
Wait on the Table: Brown
Serve: Demonbruem, E. Walker, Trent
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

Romans 5:8
“But God demonstrates His
own love toward us, in that
while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.”

*“How many observe Christ’s birthday! How
few, His precepts!”*

Ben Franklin

*“One of the most glorious messes in the world
is the mess created in the living room on Christ-
mas day. Don’t clean it up too quickly.”*

Andy Rooney

Staying Married

Tim Peek and Meg Dennison have been married for many years, and in order to stay married they decided to do something radical: for 365 straight days, they asked each other, “Do you want to be with me?” Some would consider that question risky: What if the answer was “No”? For Tim and Meg, it had the opposite effect. It forced both of them to focus on their relationship *every* day... not just when they were fighting... not just when things were going well.

Along with asking the question, Tim and Meg made two lists. One list was titled “The Three Yeses Of My Marriage”. The other list was titled “The Three Nos Of My Marriage”.

The three yeses were things that each one had to have in order for the marriage to work. The three nos were things that each one despised, things that they wished never happened in their marriage. Independently, Tim and Meg pursued their yeses and rejected their nos every day. If faithfulness was a yes on Tim’s list, he did everything he could do to remain faithful to Meg. If one of Meg’s nos was financial hardship, she did everything she could do to make wise financial decisions.

I am not recommending either of these marriage exercises. What I am recommending is that you and your spouse get serious about your mar-

riage. If that means asking the “Do you want to be with me?” question every day, fine. If it means repeating your wedding vows every year on your anniversary, do that. If it means going on a date with your spouse once a week without the kids and the cell phone, go for it.

Satan is trying to ruin marriages. World is saturated with marriage-poisoning temptations. The biggest temptation for all married people is thinking that the grass is greener with someone else. Satan wants you to think that the new person is stress-free. And when that thought takes root, it grows into infidelity.

James Hayes
