

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

This Is Why They Don't Like You

December 28, 2014

Issue 194

If I were to ask you why you like or don't like someone, you could quickly give me a list of reasons. But if I asked you why someone didn't like *you*, you probably wouldn't present a list of reasons as quickly, or you might say, "I don't know."

Trust me—there are people who don't like you, and they probably never will. Does that make you a "bad" person? Of course not; even Jesus was despised by many. No one has a 100 percent approval rating. So, here are a few reasons why some people do not like you:

(1). *You didn't meet their expectations.* Most people go

into a situation with an idea of how things are *supposed* to be, and they have an idea of how you are *supposed* to act. If you don't meet their standard, they probably won't like you.

(2). *You don't like what they like.* It is hard for two people to get along if they have nothing in common. Birds of a feather flock together.

(3). *You don't practice the Golden Rule as often as you think you do.* We tend to hold others to a higher standard. If you ask, "Why is he so mean to me?" it might be because you've never been nice to him.

(4). *They don't like "your kind."* If you are of a particular race, political party,

church, etc. someone might not like you because of those associations. No matter what you do, they won't be able to look past their hatred of "your kind."

Our goal as Christians is not to win a popularity contest. Our goal is to be faithful until death. The road of faithfulness is lined with nay-sayers, doubters, true enemies, and false friends. If we get distracted by those kinds of people, we will lose sight of Christ, the One we are to please. And, like Peter, we'll begin to drown. "Set your mind on things above, not on the things that are on the earth" (Col. 3:2).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Sympathy extended to David Young on the loss of his father, Van Young. Visitation from 12-2 today. Funeral at 2:00 at Pleasant View (Austin and Bell).
- We are making plans for a new directory.
- Mitch Newell is having tests for back problems.
- Please pray for Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, Judy York, Rick Reed, Maxine Hearn, and the Newells.

Games & Food After Services Wednesday For New Year's Eve
Thank You For Your Generosity Toward One Another This Year

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: L. Newell

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Billingsley

Serve: Gupton, Terry, Cartwright

Pray: M. Newell

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

Hebrews 10:31
“It is a terrifying thing to fall
into the hands of the living
God.”

*“Though sympathy alone can’t alter the facts, it
can help to make them more bearable.”*

Bram Stoker

“It is easy to tell the toiler

How best to carry his pack

But no one can rate a burden’s weight

Until it has been on his back”

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Worship Attendance

The issue of worship attendance has been a useful tool for many preachers throughout the centuries. Some have used it to bash Christians over the head, claiming that anything less than perfect attendance any time the elders say the congregation should meet is unacceptable to God. Others have gone the opposite way, preaching that attending worship and Bible study has little to no impact on one’s faithfulness. So, who is right? Is there a middle ground on which we can all stand?

It is clear from the plain reading of the New Testament that Christians met with one another far more often than we do today (Acts 2:46). And we know that the Hebrew writer

stated that if we do not assemble, we fail to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ (Heb. 10:23-25). Obviously, in order for us to fulfill various New Testament commands, the church must assemble to eat the Lord’s Supper, sing, pray, and hear preaching. The controversy, however, centers on the frequency of attendance and how attendance affects the soul.

First, it is illogical for someone to say, “I am a Christian, but I do not like to worship.” If that is your attitude, I am not sure you fully appreciate what Jesus did for you. Also, if it pains you to be with Christians for four hours a week (Sunday School, two Sunday Worship services, and

Wednesday night Bible study), your life is likely out of balance. Your interest in worldly things may be too great.

Second, attendance is not an either/or proposition. It’s a both/and proposition. Some say they’d rather serve people during those hours than worship. But you can do both. And again, you should *want* to do both.

Third, we must put worship attendance in its proper place among all the things we do “by faith.” Worship attendance is not the defining mark of faith, nor is it insignificant or unnecessary.

James Hayes
